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The Hilltop 5-14-2005

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WEATHER
Saturday: Partly Cloudy
 High 84, Low 66
Sunday: Scattered T-Storms
 High 78, Low 55
Monday: Mostly Cloudy
 High 69, Low 51

The Hilltop

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

#1 The Princeton Review
COLLEGE
NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 89, NO. 1

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2005

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Seniors Prepare for Graduation 2005

BY SHAYNA RUDD
 Hilltop Staff Writer

While Friday saw many school graduations, Saturday's commencement exercises will mark the end of a journey and the beginning of a new one for this year's graduating class.

Prior to the commencement ceremony, each school held their own private ceremony to honor some of the outstanding students in each school.

In the College of Arts and Sciences, the entire program was run by students. Arts and Sciences student council President Faith L. Walls and Senior class president Rukie Wilson presided.

"We always let the students run the school graduation because it shows all that they have accomplished during their years here at the University," said Linda Jones, special assistant in the Office of Student Affairs.

The graduate school did things a little differently. On Thursday, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., there was a hooding ceremony for the graduate students.

Frank Hail Jr., and student Latanya Reese, who will be graduating with a doctorate in English, addressed the students.

Courtney Taylor, a graduating special education and human development major, said that she was happy that the School of Education's ceremonies took place in a church. "If it wasn't for God we wouldn't have made it," she said.

Vonata Ford, Masters of Divinity graduate, said that although the time at Howard has been a struggle she is coming out better than she came in.

University officials have offered their congratulations to the graduates. In his farewell letter to the graduates, president of Howard University H. Patrick Swygert told the graduates that, "the fact that you are graduating this year is testimony to your own hard work, determination and purposefulness."

Parents have also recognized the

accomplishments of the graduating class. "I have so many mixed emotions that I can barely sleep at night," said Claudette Taylor, mother of graduate Courtney

Taylor. "I can't believe that it is finally here. It is their time. They have worked very hard, and they deserve everything that is coming to them."



Maya Gilliam: Senior Photo Editor

Today marks the 137th commencement ceremony of the Class of 2005. Honorees of today include Catherine Liggins Hughes, the founder and chairperson of Radio One, Dr. Benjamin F. Payton, President of Tuskegee University and Frank Savage, Chief Executive Officer of Savage Holdings, LLC.

Workers, University Reach Agreement

BY FARREN HINTON
 Contributing Writer

Howard University administration and service workers reached an agreement to end their nearly seven month protest May 4.

"We were not able to get more [pay], but we were able to get the best we are going to get," said Sheri Davis, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 82 representative. "After looking at other contracts on campus, we were able to get the best offered."

The protests began when Howard University proposed a 2 percent wage increase for its workers across the board.

The maintenance employees argued that this wage increase did not meet the standards of the cost of living, which is set to rise by an estimated 3.3 percent. Therefore, the crew proposed a higher percentage increase in their compensation to match the cost of living.

Russell Maloney, Union Shop Steward in Residence Life and is also on the Bargaining committee. Maloney said that "The most positive issue that came from the bargaining is that workers making less than nine dollars an hour will be making up to ten dollars an hour by November 5."

J.J. Pryor, assistant Vice President of the Office of Communications for Howard University said that the university is pleased about the agreement that was reached on May 4th and ratified by the Union on May 10.

Previously Howard had implemented a merit pay increase system, in which workers' wages were increased based on job evaluations.

"The form and process of the merit pay was not fair, and while bargaining we were able to change that," Davis said.

Workers agree that it is beneficial for students to take a greater interest in this issue because it is ultimately the students who will benefit or lose with the outcome of this matter. Students are concerned about the well-being of the Howard workers.

"The maintenance workers deserve to make more money than that. They have to maintain our buildings," said Paris Fontanelle, freshman finance major. "If they had more money they would be more enthusiastic about doing so."

A similar protest occurred at Georgetown University involving the administration and its service workers in March.



Maya Gilliam: Senior Photo Editor

University maintenance workers have decided to accept the administration's service contract despite not receiving their proposed wage increase.

Former NAACP Head to Speak at Commencement



Kweisi Mfume, former president of NAACP, (pictured right) will be this year's commencement speaker.

BY RACHEL HUGGINS
 Contributing Writer

Past president of the NAACP, former U.S. congressman and civil rights activist Kweisi Mfume will be the keynote speaker for Howard University's 2005 commencement ceremony.

Mfume was born Frizzell Gerard Gray on October 24, 1948 in the dangerous streets of Baltimore. As an inner-city youth, Mfume was a troubled teenager and succumbed to the conditions of his impoverished environment. During his youth, Mfume was a street hustler who dropped out of high school and became a teenage father.

However, after an epiphany, Mfume steered his life in a positive direction. He legally changed his name to Kweisi

Mfume, which means "conquering son of kings", after his aunt chose the name during a visit to Africa.

Mfume's epiphany sparked a new motivation in him and he quickly used his new name to redefine himself. Mfume returned to school where he received his GED and eventually graduated magna cum laude from Morgan State University in 1976.

Mfume's birth in politics began in 1979 when he served in the Baltimore City Council for seven years.

In 1996, he resigned from the U.S. Congress and was elected president and CEO of the NAACP, the nation's largest and oldest civil rights organization.

During his tenure, Mfume fought for social justice and affir-

mative-action legislation. After nine years of presiding over the NAACP, Mfume stepped down from his position.

He agreed to serve as a consultant to the organization until July 1 and recently announced his bid for senator of Maryland in 2006. If Mfume is elected, he will be the first African-American senator from Maryland.

"I'm looking toward to what he has to say, especially since he has announced his candidacy for senator in Maryland," said graduating senior, Faith L. Walls.

Graduate student Shamecca Williams is also anticipating his speech during this year's ceremony.

"I think he's an influential person and what he's trying to say will be key to those who are going into politics and civil

rights," said Williams, who will be receiving a master's degree in English. "He will also help these graduates know what venues to go into in order to start a career in that field."

According to Roberta McLeod, director of the Blackburn Center, Mfume was driven to success and did not let his past define his existence, although he faced many trials in life. He has become a positive role model for African-Americans and exemplifies Black leadership in America.

"He has always been a fighter for the Black community and I think he's a person that has taken on issues that have impacted the community and greater society," McLeod said. "Mfume

See NAACP, Metro A9

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VOICES & VIEWS

What are your plans after graduation?



Priscilla Harrison
Senior
Psychology

"I'm going to get my MBA and work."



Kamari Simpson
Senior
Marketing

"I will be an area sales manager for Owens Corning."



Gary Brooks
Senior
Management

"I plan to work as a budget analyst for NSA and attend grad school at the University of Maryland."



Phil Duffy
Senior
Psychology

"I'm going and taking a year off before grad school to teach in Texas."

Students Break Parking Meters to Avoid Paying

BY SHANAE L. HARRIS
Asst. Campus Editor

Washington, D.C. police arrested six students last March outside of the School of Pharmacy for the destruction of D.C. government property. The students were charged with the act of jamming the parking meters located on the 2300 block of 4th Street, directly outside of the school.

In response, the city has taken action to ensure that incidents such as this will not occur again. According to Vice Provost Franklin D. Chambers, a task force has been created to address the concerns the city has with people jamming the parking meters.

"The resultant task force established sting operations to identify people jamming the meters, including Howard as well as areas surrounding Howard," Chambers said.

Memos were posted around

several buildings and dorms at the university addressing the issue and the university's strong disagreement with vandalizing school and city property.

"The university doesn't condone tampering with, or the destruction of government property for any reason," Chambers said.

In addition, Chambers and other administrators have stressed the importance of city laws in compliance with attending Howard.

"We always encourage students to obey laws of the District if they are from elsewhere because they will be held accountable for the laws of the District while matriculating at the university," Chambers added.

Charges are still pending for the students, although the D.C. Police Department could not offer any information regarding the issue.

Students feel that incidents

like this occur because of the problems that students continuously have with parking on campus.

"Since I've been at Howard parking has always been a struggle for me," said Kenneth Byrd, a graduate student.

Others shared Byrd's sentiments. "There are so many parking facilities that seem vacant so it seems that there should not be so many students searching for parking spaces and putting change in meters everyday," said Janelle Dunbar, sophomore advertising major.

Student parking for the university is conducted through a parking lottery in which a limited number of students are offered a parking space for a \$240 annual fee.

"It is very difficult to find parking and it is also hard because if you aren't lucky enough to get the limited parking, you have to pay," Kristin Kimble, said sophomore physi-



Armond Brown-Staff Photographer

After the arrest of six Howard students outside the School of Pharmacy, some students believe the university should do more to address issue of limited parking.

cal therapy major.

Administrators, while concerned with the parking meter

problems, have not decided on changes for student parking.

Law School Touts Record Number of Graduates

BY SHAENA HENRY
Hilltop Staff Writer

A historical 214 students graduate from the Howard University School of Law today, a significant increase from the normal average of 130 to 135 students.

Graduating student Derrick Simmons attributes the increase to the declining economy after September 11.

"September 11 had an adverse effect on the job markets," he said. "Students opted to go to a professional school because they didn't have or lost a job."

In the Fall of 2002, Howard Law had its largest enrollment ever, with 238 students as opposed to the usual 150 students. Other universities, such as Princeton University, had the same effect. According to www.princeton.edu, applications for Princeton's Graduate School rose 23.8 percent in 2002. The school had 9,009 applications compared to 7,279 in 2001.

Jennifer Walker, graduating law student, agrees that the rise in enrollment is the result of the economic downturn.

"After the 2001 economic crash, people with undergraduate degrees weren't as valuable," she said.

Simmons chose Howard Law as he was finishing his MBA at Jackson State University.

"I fell in love with the nurturing environment you receive at an HBCU from people who look like you and can identify with your background and experiences," he said.

Reginald McGahee, assistant dean and director of admissions, said that they have learned that the administration and faculty can handle a large

class, but there are more benefits to having a smaller class.

"Howard Law is a small law school so we can do a lot to nurture our students," he said. "When a class becomes too large it can diminish that."

McGahee also said that Howard Law plans to reduce its class size back to the average 150 students. During the admissions process a target number is set. In order to achieve that number, they must anticipate the number of students that will enroll. The difference in 2002 is that more students enrolled said McGahee.

When reviewing law school applications, McGahee looks for 'well rounded and qualified' students. Admissions expect students to take the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) seriously because they review their scores critically. He advises prospective law students to make the LSAT a six month process in which they practice and become comfortable with the exam.

McGahee said the best thing students can do is to apply early.

Students like Walker and Simmons know the advantages of being a Howard Law graduate. Simmons plans to return to Greenville, Mississippi and work for a state court judge. Walker will start her own practice involving national level government relations and consulting in D.C. and Virginia. Both have high expectations for their class.

"This class will be the greatest single impact of producing social engineers in America and the global community as opposed to catalysts on society," Simmons said.

Walker expects those who benefit from Howard Law to give back to the school.

Howard Professor Remembered As 'Strong'

BY MORGAN NEVILLES-MOORE
Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard University Professor Ademola Aiyegoro, Ph.D. was remembered by family, friends, dignitaries and colleagues for his strong guidance and heartfelt commitment toward both his students and his community. on Saturday, April 30th.

"Dr. Aiyegoro had a gentle spirit, always quiet and humble but making his presence known. He will truly be missed," said Tiffinni Mcmillian, Finance and International Business Administration Assistant.

Dr. Aiyegoro, 52, passed the morning of April 19, a direct result of complications from a heart attack he suffered in June of 2004, which left him unable to return back to the university.

Dr. Aiyegoro's career started long before he joined the Howard University faculty in 1970. He taught at Prince George's Community College and George Mason University prior to becoming an assistant professor of economics and then associate professor of finance in the Howard University School of Business.

"I have known Dr. Aiyegoro for the many years he has been here with us. He was a dedicated professional, kind, caring and a very strong advocate for students," said Dr. Barron Harvey, Dean of Howard University School of Business.

Along with Dr. Aiyegoro's Managerial Economics and Business Fluctuations and Forecasting, he also conducted development training seminars and workshops in the business community.

Among his many contributions

to his students, Dr. Aiyegoro was a leading researcher. He has been published in numerous reputable national and international business journals. Dr. Aiyegoro has served as president of the Organization of Nigerian Professionals, P.R.O. of the Council of Nigerian Peoples and Organizations, and as Vice president of Corporate Affairs for the International Academy of African Business and Development. To add to his many achievements and international honors Dr. Aiyegoro was a recent nominee for the Howard University Excellence Award.

"Dr. Aiyegoro was very politically active around the city and used his work to promote global international awareness," said Dr. Ayodele Mobolurin, Assistant Professor of Information Systems. "He was a wonderful colleague and friend, a genuinely warm person."

Dr. Aiyegoro was an educator known widely throughout the academia arena; however, his most important work in life was that of his church and his love for God. Friends attending the funeral said God was ever present in his for life.

Dr. Aiyegoro was an active member of The Grace of God Ministries International in Bladensburg, Maryland where he sang in the church choir and played keyboard and guitar.

Dr. Aiyegoro made changes in the community in which he lived in and in his home community of Nigeria.

"He often talked about going on sabbatical, back to Nigeria and lecture again, perhaps more," Dr. Mobolurin said.

Dr. Aiyegoro is survived by his wife, Ganiat Adeola Aiyegoro and son.

'Super Seniors' Still Striving to Walk the Graduation Stage

BY SHANAE L. HARRIS
Asst. Campus Editor

While the most popular topic today may be a long-awaited graduation for seniors, there are some who too endured the last four years, although they are not quite ready to walk across the stage and receive their degrees.

Most students are familiar with the "super senior," or fifth-year senior, as some would call them. What most students are not familiar with, however, is the fact that national statistics show that those lucky enough to graduate in four years are actually those of the exception, rather than the rule.

The National Center of Education completed a study based on 1 million students that calculated only 35 percent of full-time college students to graduate in the expected four-years after enrollment. The study also indicated that while 16.5 percent of full-time students graduate in five years and 5.1 percent graduate in six, there is a large number remaining that take even longer to earn their degree or never finish at all.

Advisors and students agree that some of the largest issues

contributing to an extended stay in undergraduate school include academic advising, course loads, and managing school and other extra-curricular activities.

Watson Scott Swail, President of the Educational Policy Institution, blamed the problem on students' motivation through college.

"At least half of all students who have entered a four-year institution have failed to realize their dreams and aspirations that led them there in the first place," Swail wrote in the January issue of The Chronicle of Higher Education.

Some students feel that it was their own personal responsibilities that made their time at the university longer.

"I took on a lot of extra things, including work and projects, that had nothing to do with my major," said Massah Bundu, history major and rising fifth-year senior. "I could have taken 21 credits and got out of here on time, but I didn't want to take on too much at a time."

Bundu agreed, however, that part of the overall problem is students that do not have guidance during their four years.

"Many students don't think

they need to get advised, but then senior year rolls around they finally see an advisor, they realize that they don't have some important graduation requirements," she said.

Some are fifth-year seniors by their college's scheme rather than by choice, and are positive about the additional year.

"I am in a five-year program in the School of Education that is set up so that students can pace themselves and obtain all the knowledge they need for the field rather than just rushing to graduate," Khalila Jenkins, sophomore education major said.

Other students agree that five-year schooling offers time to become familiar with the field as well.

"Although my Co-Op and internships slowed down my graduation process, when I do graduate next fall, it will be better than if I were to have graduated in four years without the experience I gained," said Frederick Jenkins, senior computer science major.

With graduating senior totals ranging from close to 500 in the College of Arts and Sciences to a smaller 21 in the



Marlene Hawthorne-Asst. Photo Editor

National statistics show that most college students do not graduate within four years for various reasons.

School of Education, seniors are looking forward to receiving their long awaited diplomas, whether it has taken four, five, or even six years.

"The important thing isn't

when you graduate, it's just graduating period," Jenkins said. "A degree is a degree despite how long it may take to get it."



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Noah Benjamin Saft
William Ulrich
Jenny Wong
Philip Michaelsen

Summer Interns

Brad Griewe
Kevin McCaffrey
Daren Tavgac
Coleen Brown
Stefan Wernli
Elizabeth Coston

Wealth Management | Global Asset Management | Investment Bank

You & Us



VOICES & VIEWS

What are your plans after graduation?



Camille Gaines
Senior
Marketing

"I plan on going home to Texas to work with Kellogg's."



Shayla Gaither
Senior
Medicine

"I am going to an anesthesiology program in Cleveland."



Mariam Said
Senior
Medicine

"I'll be doing a residency in pediatrics here in DC."



Brandon Brice
Senior
International Business

"Basically, I want to attend graduate school in New York City and study global policy while working."

Photos by Armond Brown
Staff Photographer

Teaching Program Surpasses Expectations

BY CHRISTINA M. WRIGHT
Campus Editor

Howard University's Transition to Teaching Program exceeded expectations of accepting 60 participants for this year's intensive summer program, the first step in the alternative teacher certification program.

"We were able to recruit well over sixty new students," said Dr. Joan Brown, director of the Transition to Teaching Program. "Although, we won't know the exact number until the students take the Praxis in June."

The Praxis exam is used by most U.S. state education agencies to make licensing decisions. It measures the student's proficiency in the basic subjects, and the specific subject that they intend to teach.

The Transition to Teaching Program began in 2002 when the U.S. Department of Education selected Howard University's School of Education for a \$3.8 million grant over the course of five years.

The program had 13 participants the first year and 28 the second. Sixty members is more than twice as many as the last year.

The Transition to Teaching Program is a two-year alternative teacher certification program that trains recent college graduates and mid-career individuals to become teachers. It provides the participants with summer training, paid tuition

for 18 hours of graduate credit toward certification or a Master's degree in the School of Education, and a three-year teaching contract with a partnering school district.

The program participants start off in an intensive summer program that teaches "theoretical knowledge" of the classroom, and hands-on experience with summer school students. The participants are then hired at a partnering school, receiving full benefits and salary while they continue graduate classes with the School of Education in preparation for certification. This means that the program allows three months of classroom experience before turning the reins over to the participants.

"It would definitely be easier if we were able to have a little more experience before we were thrown into the classroom," said Rodney Carter, a Transition to Teaching participant who teaches third grade in Prince George's County Public Schools.

Dr. Brown said the quick pace is needed to help reduce the teacher shortage as soon as possible.

"The K-12 students suffer because you have to have a certified teacher to teach those specific subjects, because they have to be qualified to teach," she said. "We have learned that teachers teach what they know. If they don't know, then the students won't know."



The School of Education's Transition to Teaching Program is a two-year alternative teacher certification program that trains recent college graduates to become teachers.

Dr. Brown said the Metropolitan area is approximately 1200 teachers short of a full staff. She attributes some of the nationwide shortage to colleges and universities not producing enough teachers through the traditional certification process.

"That's why we have the alternative programs, to help close the gap," she said. "The U.S. population is growing and the older teachers are retiring. It

is making a shortage. You really just have an issue of the traditional college and university programs not being able to produce enough."

Earning only up to \$38,000 a year as a beginning teacher, it has been said that salaries are a deterrent for some teachers.

"Let's be real. If you have a chance to earn your degree and look after an overcrowded classroom of children and then you had a chance at making six fig-

ures doing a whole lot less, which would you pick," said Michelle Devonish, a ninth grade reading teacher at Banneker High School.

However, some people would choose teaching.

"A study I did revealed that the number one reason people wanted to teach was to help others and give back," Dr. Brown said. Recruitment is closed for this year, but applications will be accepted next Spring.

Senior Accepts Mission to Serve Community

BY BRYAN I. WHITE
Contributing Writer

Brandon Omar Brown of Dallas, Texas will be obtaining a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Howard University today. From there, this graduate will head off to Mission Year, a one year missionary program whose purpose is to serve God and people in inner cities across the United States.

Brown's four years at the Mecca were filled with the rigorous work of his studies. Outside the classroom, he was leader and member of various campus organizations.

The Who's Who graduate is president emeritus of the Howard University Community Choir, of which he has been a part for four years. He frequently works as a Chapel Assistant and is the Baptist Student Ministry membership coordinator.

He is also the Texas Club treasurer and a member of Christian Brothers United, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Golden Key, and Beta Kappa Chi Scientific Honor Society.

Brown has been so involved on campus that it took him a long time to remember which organization he joined first and what inspired him to participate in so many groups. However, he confided that he was highly involved in high school and this yearning to serve carried on with him to Howard.

Brown first volunteered to be treasurer of the Texas Club. Next, he was led to join the Community Choir after attending a back-to-school Joy Night concert freshman year, where the founder and director, Thomas K. Pierre,

Jr., had him sing scales from the audience.

Although biologically Brown only has one younger sibling, a brother named Norman, he has a large spiritual family on campus that call him names such as Deacon Brown and Brother President.

In his room in the East Towers, Brown relaxes with the television tuned in to the cartoon "King of the Hill." His Texas pride shows in the form of a miniature version of his state's license plate on his room door. On the wall adjacent to the television, a yellow traffic sign reads, "Yield, Bison on the Move!"

Now that he is free from schoolwork, Brown is not thinking much about partying but he is thinking about being available to friends. Also, the graduating senior is still deciding whether to go into pediatrics or geriatrics.

"My ultimate goal is to practice medicine in an area where access to healthcare is limited," he said. Brown believes that healthcare should be affordable for all people.

When asked what advice or wisdom he would like to give students still matriculating at Howard, Brown immediately blurted out, "Matthew 6:33." He then reached for his Bible to verify the scripture: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

"[Quoting the Bible] may sound cliché, but it is truly what helped me these past four years," Brown said. He shared how he was doing things he should not have, and how family, friends, and mentors were there to help him stay on track. Through his financial, emotional,



Graduating senior Brandon Brown stayed busy during his tenure at Howard with many organizations, including the Texas Club and Community Choir.

physical and social struggles, he always had people there to tell him that God is able to see him through.

Brown says that it's by the "grace of God I'm able to say I graduated in four years."

The Mission Year requires willing young adults to live and work in one of the inner cities of Atlanta, Oakland, Chicago, or Philadelphia from early

September to early August.

These youths are to be radical for Christ and will partner with a local church and spend time getting to know their neighbors in their selected city under God's commandment to love the Lord and "to love your neighbor as yourself."

Howard Hosts 2005 Student Art Expo Opening Reception

BY MELISSA MATTHEWS
Contributing Writer

The Armour J. Blackburn Center Gallery Lounge was brimming with excitement on Friday, May 6 as Howard University student artists stepped out to celebrate their talents at the opening reception of the 2005 Student Art Expo.

The walls of the gallery were beautifully adorned with the work of Howard's own painters, photographers and sculptors. The ambience was filled with pride and admiration as administrators and faculty gushed over the foresight and determination of student organizers.

This student organized and executed event was the brain child of senior photography major, Jordan Colbert. In her tear filled opening remarks, Colbert explained her motives

in planning the exhibition.

"When I first heard that there wasn't going to be a student show, I immediately thought that something had to be done," Colbert said, "because it is important that student artists be given an opportunity to gain knowledge and experience by exhibiting their work."

As the reception continued the small crowd of university administration, faculty, and a fair sprinkling of students were introduced to the two staff members that assisted Colbert in her efforts, Colette Veasey-Cullors, art department professor, and Roberta McCleod, director of Blackburn Center. Both of whom beamed like proud parents as they congratulated Colbert and her small staff on their success.

McCleod who worked closely with organizers noted

the students' commitment and long hours. However, for most in attendance, it was less about the process of putting the exhibition together and more about the art.

Boasting twenty plus artists on its roster, the exposition was able to lure in some of the university's top administrators. President H. Patrick Swygert, Vice-Provost of Student affairs, Dr. Franklin Chambers, Board of Trustee member, Dr. Starmanda Bullock, and Chairman of the Art Department, Alfred Smith were all in attendance.

President Swygert even lent words of encouragement to Art students with an anecdote about his own short lived attempt to pursue art.

The Student Art Expo will be open until the second week in June.



The 2005 Student Art Expo opening reception featured more than 20 artists and included President Swygert.

Armando Alexander

Spring Semester Crime Report

January - May 9, 2005

Murders	0
Sex Offenses	3
Robberies	28
Assaults	24
Burglaries	29
Motor Vehicle Thefts	8

According to interim Campus Police Chief Lawrence Thomas, his department is working to reduce crime. "We have responded to the robberies by deploying high visibility patrols in the areas, posting crime alerts in the libraries, Blackburn Center and dorms, publishing safety tips via e-mail and conducting crime prevention presentations," Thomas said. "The Investigations Section is in continuous communication with the 3rd Detective (Thompson) assigned to investigate the robberies in and around our area. They have develop suspects and are working to close some of the cases."

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While We Were Away...

BY SHAYNA RUDD
Hilltop Staff Writer

Bison Ball: A Glamorous Affair

The red carpet was rolled out for the Bison who attended this year's Bison Ball on April 23. The theme was "Glitz And Glam: A Cosmopolitan Affair." The hosts were Phillip Murray and Laura Brown, Mr. and Ms. Howard University. This year's event was different from the years before; some people felt that it was better. "I felt that this year it was a lot more intimate than last year because the space appeared to be smaller," said Vanessa Grant, sophomore biology major. "It was also a lot more entertaining."

The Vizion hip-hop dance troupe performed two routines, and Aghogo Sowho sang a rendition of Mariah Carey's "Vision of Love" that brought everyone to their feet. During the award ceremony, several students, administrators, and organizations were honored. The one student who stood out was the President of the African Student Association, Kevin Johnson-Azuara, who not only took home an honor as the Bison of the Year, but also led the African Student Association to being the Organization of the Year. "I just want to really thank God," Azuara said. "Because, without him, none of this would be possible."

Sororities and Fraternities Compete in Neo Stroll

On Friday April 22, several people came out to experience

the Neo Stroll, a new Howard tradition with a worthy cause. The event was held in the Black burn, ballroom, and was coordinated by Sheree King. It was a stroll competition of all the new Greeks that joined this spring. The proceeds went to the Campaign for Howard. The competition included Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

"It was a great event, very creative, and I look forward to it next year," said L. Joi Love, sophomore psychology major.

At the end of the evening, the AKA's won on the ladies side, the Omega's won on the men's side, and the overall winner of the competition was the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

"I can't wait for this year's step show," said Byron Stewart, newly elected HUSA President and junior broadcast journalism major.

Howard Hosts Jill Scott Book Signing

Recording artist, actress and poet Jill Scott promoted her new book in the Ira Aldridge Theatre on April 29.

"You know something," she said "Before I was a recording artist, colleges didn't want to hear my poems, but that's okay. You're hearing them now." The name of Scott's book is *For Moments, The Minutes, The Hours: The Poetry of Jill Scott*. The event was sponsored by the Howard University Book Store, and it allowed students to get to know Scott through not only her writing, but her

experiences that she freely shared with everyone.

"I love Miss Scott so very much as a person and a sister," said Martina Holley, sophomore marketing major. "This event only confirmed the love I have for her." After a brief reading, Scott signed everyone's book and encouraged others to buy it. "I have been a poet long before I was an artist," she said. "My words aren't meant to be lady-like. They aren't meant to be extra deep. They aren't meant to sound like Dr. Sonya Sanchez. They are my words, my life, my story. I use words, but I don't let them use me."

Delta Sigma Theta Annual May Week 2005

The theme of this year's Delta Sigma Theta May Week 2005 was "Reaching Back to Pull Forward." It was a week filled with informative sessions designed to help the students of Howard University to re-evaluate the way they live, learn, and serve. "May week was so very informative for me," said Lynda Lloyd, sophomore political science major.

"I learned so much about the current status of the African American community and from that I was able to clearly see where we are going." The week consisted of several unique and versatile programs, beginning with "How to Build a Portfolio" and ending with a program on physical fitness. Each program catered to everyone who participated. "The week really opened my eyes," said Ayahanna Gordon, sophomore nursing major. "I'm ready to give back. I'm ready to get things in order"

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U.S. Puts Pressure on North Korea, Asks China for Help

BY ADAM VICKS
Contributing Writer

The United States stepped up its efforts this week, asking other nations, like China, to help persuade North Korea not to build a nuclear arsenal.

This U.S. call to attention was prompted by a recently released North Korean statement saying that they have extracted 8,000 fuel rods, which will allow them to reprocess the spent fuel into grade plutonium weapons.

In other words, North Korea is "taking necessary measurements to bolster its nuclear arsenal for the defensive purpose of coping with the prevailing situation," stated the report.

U.S. officials believe the claim to be a duplicated report of a statement released two years ago.

Earlier, U.S. intelligence had detected, by satellite, what appears to be North Korea's preparation for testing a short range missile. An official told CNN that North Korea is digging holes, indicative of nuclear testing, but that "the North Koreans

are letting the U.S. see what they want us to see."

But despite the fact that North Korea tested a short-range missile on May 1 into the Sea of Japan, the U.S. has found no concrete evidence that Kim Jong Il, North Korea's leader, is making advances in nuclear developments. Still, the United States is keeping its eyes open.

Just this year North Korea announced it had nuclear weapons, but in order to achieve the same status as other nuclear countries, North Korea must conduct a nuclear test, according to Anthony Brown, former chief of the East Asia division of the CIA's clandestine service.

"The North Koreans have a bad record in a variety of ways, and they have a bad record in the past of sponsoring and being involved in terrorist attacks and proliferation of missiles," said an official at the U.S. State Department.

There have been a few round talks with North Korea, one taking place last June, in an attempt to get the country to give up its nuclear weapons. American officials said they desire to solve this nuclear problem through

multilateral diplomacy.

North Korea did, however, agree to six-party talks but withdrew for reasons of "hostile" U.S. policy.

"The U.S. and a number of other countries have all indicated that they are not prepared to see nuclear weapons in the hands of North Korea," said one State Department official. However, pleas by the United States and allied countries for North Korea to return to these meetings have been denied.

And recent Korean operations have left some intelligence officials cautious. Since October 2004, activity in the northeast part of the country has been heavily monitored, including visits from Pakistani nuclear program creator, Abdul Qadeer Khan. But officials have not linked any recent activities with outside help.

Just last month the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs, Christopher Hill, traveled to Korea to meet with diplomatic officials from the Republic of Korea, including the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ban Ki-moon, to discuss pending

issues concerning North Korea's possession of nuclear weapons and to exchange views on the Northeast Asia situation.

"We have formed three principles," O Soo-Dong, Minister of Public Affairs for the Korean Embassy said Friday.

"We do not allow North Korean nuclear programs and we cannot agree with tests; no North Korean nuclear issues should be dissolved in a peaceful way; and South Korea should be involved in the North Korean nuclear issues," O said.

Minister O believes any North Korean nuclear developments could mean international disaster. "The expert of international security issues [at the Korean Embassy] agreed that neighboring countries will be tempted into developing nuclear weapons for their own security," O predicted.

"And why shouldn't we," he added, "it's quite natural that the neighboring country could be tempted." The minister's advice is that North Korea abandon its plan of nuclear weapons for the security of worldwide peace.



The US and allied countries are calling for North Korea to put an end to its nuclear weapons program.

International Graduates: Back Home or Staying in States?

BY SHALEEM THOMPSON
Hilltop Staff Writer

Graduating broadcast journalism major, Anya Gomes, remembers her freshman year in the United States at Howard University. Her mother gave her a sacred folder, telling Gomes, "guard this with your life."

This folder held her passport, I-94 form and other important school documents. After her 4-year tenure at Howard, miles from Trinidad, Gomes longs to return to her life back home.

Many international students like Gomes said they became accustomed to living abroad and America became their second home.

Most of the international students at Howard come from Trinidad & Tobago (about 30%), Nigeria (about 15%), Jamaica (about 15%), Canada, Ghana,

Bahamas, Kenya and Grenada. This year, according to Howard's Enrollment Management, there are approximately 160 undergraduate international students graduating.

While graduation is a celebratory time for students and their families, many international students find themselves at a unique fork in the road: going to graduate school, finding work in the U.S. or returning to their homeland.

With the Optional Practical Training (OPT), an Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS)-approved program, international students are now allowed to work for one year, 40 hours per week, after graduation.

While this option can be optimal for students who want to gain experience in their field in America, this makes the deci-

sion of what to do after graduation even harder for some.

"I have a job in DC so I plan on working for a year then do my Masters," Gomes said. "In the long term though I would like to work and live in the United States because I believe that there are more opportunities here for my industry."

Many that are planning to attend graduate school, still may want to eventually return home. Terrica Jennings, a finance major from Jamaica said, "After grad school I plan on going back home because my dad owns a business in Jamaica and I would like to help him run the business as well as help build Jamaica."

Asha-Dee Celestine, a mechanical engineering major from Trinidad and Tobago felt similarly saying, "I am going to attend grad-school at Stanford and work for a while to gain experience in my field but I want to return home after because I want to teach mechanical engineering and make a contribution in educating future engineers in my country."

Though many international students plan to further their education in the United States or work here after graduation, a large majority of them are planning to return home and enter the job market.



International students must decide whether to go back to homelands, such as Jamaica, or stay in the US.

Students Respond to Tale Of Runaway Bride

BY JABARI SMITH
Contributing Writer

In her long-awaited statement, Jennifer Wilbanks apologized to her fiancé, families, friends, church, and community for falsifying her abduction days before her wedding with John Mason. She insisted that her flight from Duluth, Ga. to New Mexico, via Las Vegas, was not due to cold feet, but instead a result of a number of compelling issues and fears that were controlling her life.

Whether it was cold feet or escaping problems, Wilbanks' situation, though dramatic, is not unusual. According to the Howard University Counseling Center, it is estimated

that approximately 20% of couples in America call off their weddings each year. The change of heart is, perhaps, a reflection of individuals' fear of commitment or doubts about their relationship.

Barbara Bartlein, author of "Why Did I Marry You Anyway? 12.5 Strategies for a Happy Marriage," said many couples spend more time planning the wedding than they do actually talking about the marriage.

Jessica Montgomery, a senior history and political science double major, who is engaged to her boyfriend of five years, agrees that pre-wedding day jitters are extremely prevalent in the months preceding the big day.

See BRIDE, N&W A7

Students Consider Love, Money When Choosing Careers

BY SHALEEM THOMPSON
Hilltop Staff Writer

For the 2005 graduates, it seems that attaining a degree at this time is even more beneficial since a recent report from CNN Money stated that employers may be hiring more of this year's graduates than before and that employers are paying more than ever in starting salaries.

According to a report by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), more than 61 percent of companies plan to hire more graduates, raising the rate of recent college grads hired to 13 percent.

According to Gregory C. Spriggs, the Howard University Director of Technical Operations for Enrollment Management, the most popular majors are biology, journalism, radio-TV-film, political science, psychology, marketing, nursing, finance, management, electrical engineering and international business. The majors with the least number of students are nutrition, health education, French, African studies, classical civilization, physics, Spanish, philosophy and computer engineering.

The fact that the salaries of the most popular majors are higher than the least popular majors may lead to the question of whether students choose their field for love or for the money?

Darnisha Ross is an accounting major whose degree will be worth an average salary of \$44,564, according to the CNN report. "Though my salary would be large and I want to make money, I also love accounting. My aunt is an accountant and even before high school

I decided that this is what I wanted to do. I really like the field but it just so happens that the industry pays well."

Natasha Brown, a communication and culture major felt the same. "I did not choose my field for financial security it was something that I always wanted to do and I guess the incentive is getting paid well," Brown said.

Some students, like biology major Felixia Mendoza, were not aware of the average salary of their future career. Mendoza, who could receive a \$38,775 salary for entering the medical field as a registered nurse said, "I have no idea of what my salary would be when I get a job. I want to get a PhD in Wildlife and Fisheries but money has nothing to do with my career decision, I just love my field."

Greg Wallace is a systems and computer science major. With a degree that will be worth an average salary of \$45,000 to \$60,000, Wallace confessed that his career decision was based on both money and because he enjoyed the field. "I am aware that in my field they offer one of the highest paying salaries with an entry level salary for undergraduates," Wallace said. "However, I am extremely technologically driven and this has given me a love for my field."

Patricia Thompson, who is attaining her Masters in Psychology said, "I am interested in psychological testing and assessment and I am very interested in what I do and very excited about the possibility of working with and helping kids. Attaining a good salary is small in comparison to the feeling of helping children who are the future leaders."

Howard ROTC Cadets Become Commissioned

BY FAITH OHAI
Contributing Writer

Most graduates at Howard University will receive their diplomas in one hand and throw their cap with the other, ready to enter the workforce. For graduating ROTC cadets they will also attend a commissioning ceremony, issue their first salute to a non-commissioning officer and prepare to go to Officer Basic Course to be trained for their military career.

This year the Air Force ROTC program will commission 22 graduates as second lieutenants in the United States Air Force. These graduates also include students from surrounding universities such as Georgetown and American who are participating in the consortium. The Army ROTC program will commission one cadet this year.

Commissioned graduates will be put to the test as they begin training for their job. Senior Military Instructor, Master Sgt. Cassius Williams, said he was impressed with the



Some Howard graduates will be entering the armed forces after graduation as a part of the ROTC program.

growth and execution of leadership by Howard University cadets. "It's better than the practice run," says Williams, "students get experience in a setting, in an environment that isn't going to hurt them."

Many Howard cadets feel ROTC has honed invaluable skills. Army ROTC cadet,

Chewanda Lathan said, "I'm really into the leadership now. I don't think I would have this leadership preparation just being a college student." The junior sports medicine major feels that she has learned three things from being in the ROTC program: discipline, teamwork, See ROTC, N&W A7

Social Security Concerns Meets Howard Graduates

BY ADAM VICKS & SHARI LOGAN
Hilltop Staff

Despite the fact that many college seniors already have several expenses—loan repayments, credit card bills, rent—awaiting them after they leave Howard University's halls and enter the real world, President George W. Bush would like the many of the nation's future retirees, those born after 1955, to invest their social security into private accounts.

"If you work all your life and contribute to Social Security, you should not retire into poverty," Bush recently told a crowd of 2,000 employees at the Nissan automobile plant in Canton, Mississippi. "If we don't do anything you're going to have a huge bill to pay."

Bush also appealed to lower-income citizens who stand to be impacted the most by this fiscal dilemma during a recent press conference. "I propose a Social Security system in the future where benefits for low-income workers will grow faster than benefits for people who are better off," said Bush.

According to fiscal analysts, the Social Security fund will be entirely depleted by the time the graduating class of 2005 is set to retire in 2041. That

means that the benefits retirees would receive from Social Security checks will no longer be available, which spells disaster for recent college graduates, who rely heavily on Social Security.

Dr. Rodney Green, an Economics professor at Howard University, said, "If there's no change in the whole Social Security array, by the time [students] would reach Social Security age the system would become a pay as you go, which means a surplus would be used up and the graduates now, who would be retiring then, would be receiving benefits based on taxes of then current workers."

In what has been his most controversial bill to date, Bush has pushed to privatize Social Security by allowing young workers, among them Howard's graduates who will soon be joining the workforce, to invest their savings into private accounts. But his plans have been shaken by skeptic congressional leaders in both parties.

Some graduates have reasoned with Bush's proposed system. Tomas Henderson, a graduating senior and double psychology and administration of justice major, believes in personal saving accounts but he said that, "it should be an individual's choice to pay social security. Look at the rate it's going now. It doesn't appear that people will

see what they put in."

According to Green, one of the biggest misconceptions among young Americans is that, currently, there is a lot of money in the social security account "[but] the money flowing in from payroll taxes is not going to pay for benefits but for other funds, such as the war in Iraq." He added, "By the time we get to the 40's that surplus will be used up."

So by 2041 when today's workers are ready to draw their retirement checks from that same fund, President Bush can only guarantee that they will receive up to 75 percent of what there putting in today. Some economists believe it will become totally obsolete.

Yet, Dr. Ben K. Fred-Mensah a Political Science professor says that will never happen. "People are always paying into the system, America will always have workers. I do see the social security fund decreasing asymptotically, it may near zero, but it will never reach zero."

President Bush is insisting that the nation's younger workers begin setting up personal accounts and/or investing in the stock market since substantial social security benefits are not guaranteed.

Joseph A. Pechman, a Senior Fellow in Economic Studies at the Brookings Institution, said in an appearance before the Senate Committee on Finance in April that individual accounts can and should be strengthened on top of Social Security, where they belong.

In his opinion, Pechman said retirement security can be significantly enhanced by improving 401(k)s and IRAs through "commonsense" reforms that both sides of the Social Security debate should embrace.

"Policymakers should instead explore ways of restoring solvency that combine revenue and benefit changes; protect the most vulnerable beneficiaries; do not involve accounting ploys or magnetic asterisks; and since current projections are virtually certain to be wrong in one direction or the other, sensibly adjust to future events as they unfold," Pechman said.

As for graduates preparing to begin their career, Dr. Green advised, "In terms of Social Security, people should save every penny they can, because it may not be there for them when they retire."

Howard Students Believe Bride Suffered From Mental Illness

See BRIDE, N&W A6

"In a sense I can sympathize with the runaway bride because marriage is not only a monumental step that a couple is preparing to take, but also a very frightening step," Montgomery said. "That is why long engagements can be extremely beneficial to a couple's union because it gives you time to get comfortable with the idea of sharing the rest of your life with your partner."

Many Howard students believed Wilbanks to be mentally unstable. "Getting cold feet before your wedding is not an uncommon trait of someone on the eve of their wedding," said freshman political science major William Roberts. "Yet, faking your own kidnapping because you have cold feet leads me to believe that this woman is troubled mentally."

Wilbanks said in her statement: "Each day I am understanding more about who I am and the issues that influenced me to respond inappropriately. Therefore, I have started professional treatment voluntarily."

According to Major Don Woodruff of the Duluth Police Department, the search for Wilbanks was the largest operation the town has ever dealt with, which is precisely why the mayor of Duluth, Ga. has threatened to sue her to repay the \$40,000 to \$60,000 cost of the search. Indeed, the controversy surrounding the runaway bride sent Duluth, an affluent, predominantly white city 25 miles northeast of Atlanta, into a tailspin.

However, covering the cost of the search that enlisted 150 volunteers is not all that Wilbanks must worry about because criminal charges may also be looming in the wings.

Gwinnett County District Attorney Danny Porter has said he is considering a criminal case against Wilbanks. She could face a charge of making a false police report, which is punishable with up to 12 months



Flyers announcing the abduction of Jennifer Wilbanks were posted and are now being auctioned off as souvenirs.

in jail, or making false statements to authorities, which is a felony that carries a maximum of five years' imprisonment.

Wilbanks has also come under fire from several civil rights organizations because of her invention of the Latino kidnapper. Fernando Mateo, president of Hispanics Across America, says that he would like Wilbanks to do community service in a Latino neighborhood. Joe Beasley, southern regional director for Rainbow/PUSH, said he would demonstrate at her home if she did not apologize.

According to Beasley, Wilbanks' behavior was unacceptable. "When this lady named her kidnapper a Hispanic male, she branded an entire ethnic group," said Beasley.

Many Howard students agree with Beasley and feel

Wilbanks unrightfully made the situation a racial issue.

"The fact that she implied that she was abducted by a Latino man is indicative that there is a calling for more awareness regarding racial issues in the U.S.," said sophomore print journalism major Esan Fullington. "I think that the runaway bride needs to do extensive community service that would allow her to have contact with minority groups, specifically Latinos."

Although Wilbanks' statement made no mention of plans to still marry her fiancé John Mason, he has expressed in several interviews that he forgives Wilbanks and wants the wedding, which had a guest list of 600, 14 bridesmaids and 14 groomsmen, to still be on.

ROTC Cadets Get Crash Course On Real Life Situations

ROTC, from N&W A6

and prioritization. Lathan also says she has learned about "setting goals and trying to reach them."

ROTC cadets undergo physical, academic, and mental training. "We hold our cadets to a higher standard," said Howard department chairwoman, Colonel Lean J. Barrera. "We have requirements that don't exist in the regular college courses."

Cadets have strict class attendance requirements. Arriving late to a class is considered an absence and too many absences can result in failing the course or the loss of scholarship money.

"Trying to conduct the classes we are required to is hard," says the department chair. Barrera will be ending her two-year tour at the Air Force ROTC program, and will be retiring from her 26 year military career this year. "My greatest reward is when I'm able to help a student get to graduation and commission,"

explains Barrera, "I have a double interest in them because we are their surrogate family." Barrera said some parents even come back to thank the instructors for their work.

The National Defense Act of 1916 provided for the establishment of Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) detachments at United States colleges and universities. The Army ROTC program was re-established in 1918 and the Air Force ROTC in 1948. The program offers scholarships to students who wish to participate and be commissioned into the military at the rank of second lieutenant.

ROTC cadets will not know about overseas service until after they report to their duty stations. With talk of Iraq and Afghanistan stretching the U.S. military and low recruitment numbers, joining the near 150,000 troops overseas may be a possibility for these future second lieutenants.

According to a report by the Washington Post, the ROTC has dropped more than 16 percent

in the past two school years. There is no definite cause for this decrease in enrollment, but fear of deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan seems to scare away potential recruits.

"A lot of people have misconceptions about being in the military," said junior army cadet Taylor Wandlyn. "People think that if you're in the military, that you can't speak your mind and have your own opinions. They feel someone will always be telling you what to do," said the international business major.

As of 1990, 25 percent of the American military is African-American. Wandlyn says she is sometimes approached by other African-Americans who oppose African-Americans fighting for a country that, they say, treats them like second-class citizens. Her response: "If anything we need to be involved to bring change."

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Giant Announces Lay-Offs and Plans for Expansion

BY RACHEL HUGGINS
Contributing Writer

Giant Food Inc. recently announced its decision to close three of its manufacturing operations and several of its older warehouses in an effort to improve overall store operations, provide better store services, and benefit customers as well.

"We need to make these changes to remain an effective company. Our goal is to get out of the manufacturing business and focus on the core business aspect of running retail food and pharmacy stores," said Barry Scher, Giant's Vice President of Public Affairs.

Approximately 500 Washington area distribution, manufacturing, and transportation workers will be heavily affected by the company's decision to close its Landover Corporate Complex.

Giant Food LLC is based in Landover, MD and is responsible for employing more than 25,000 workers and operating 203 supermarkets in Virginia, Maryland, D.C., and New Jersey. This is the single biggest job cut in the history of the company's 69 years of operation.

In a press release, Bill Holmes, Executive Vice President and General Manager of Giant Food, commented on Giant's contribution to aiding its employees in adjusting to the

changes.

"We will offer to our associates appropriate separation packages including severance, continuing benefits, and career center services. Our goal will be to assist all of our associates in finding alternative employment by offering targeted re-training and job counseling programs. We are very committed to helping those affected by these changes."

Before the end of 2005, Giant has several plans that are underway. Plans include building 12 new stores and remodeling at least 25 existing stores. Since it is not economically sensible to continue operating outdated facilities, Giant decided to close several of its outdated distribution centers.

Other distribution facilities and warehouses that will be closed include the frozen food distribution in Jessup, MD, the health and beauty care distribution center and a non-food products distribution center in Landover, MD.

Giant's manufacturing operations that are being closed include the company's ice cube manufacturing plant in Landover, MD, along with the company's ice cream manufacturing facility in Jessup, MD.

Giant is currently seeking new suppliers for these commodities, but will operate these two facilities until they are sold or closed. The Giant dairy man-

ufacturing plant will be sold. Giant hopes the current dairy workers will be able to keep their employment under the new owner-operator.

In order to support Giant's current and expanded operations, the company added nearly 250 management positions. In a press release, Holmes said,

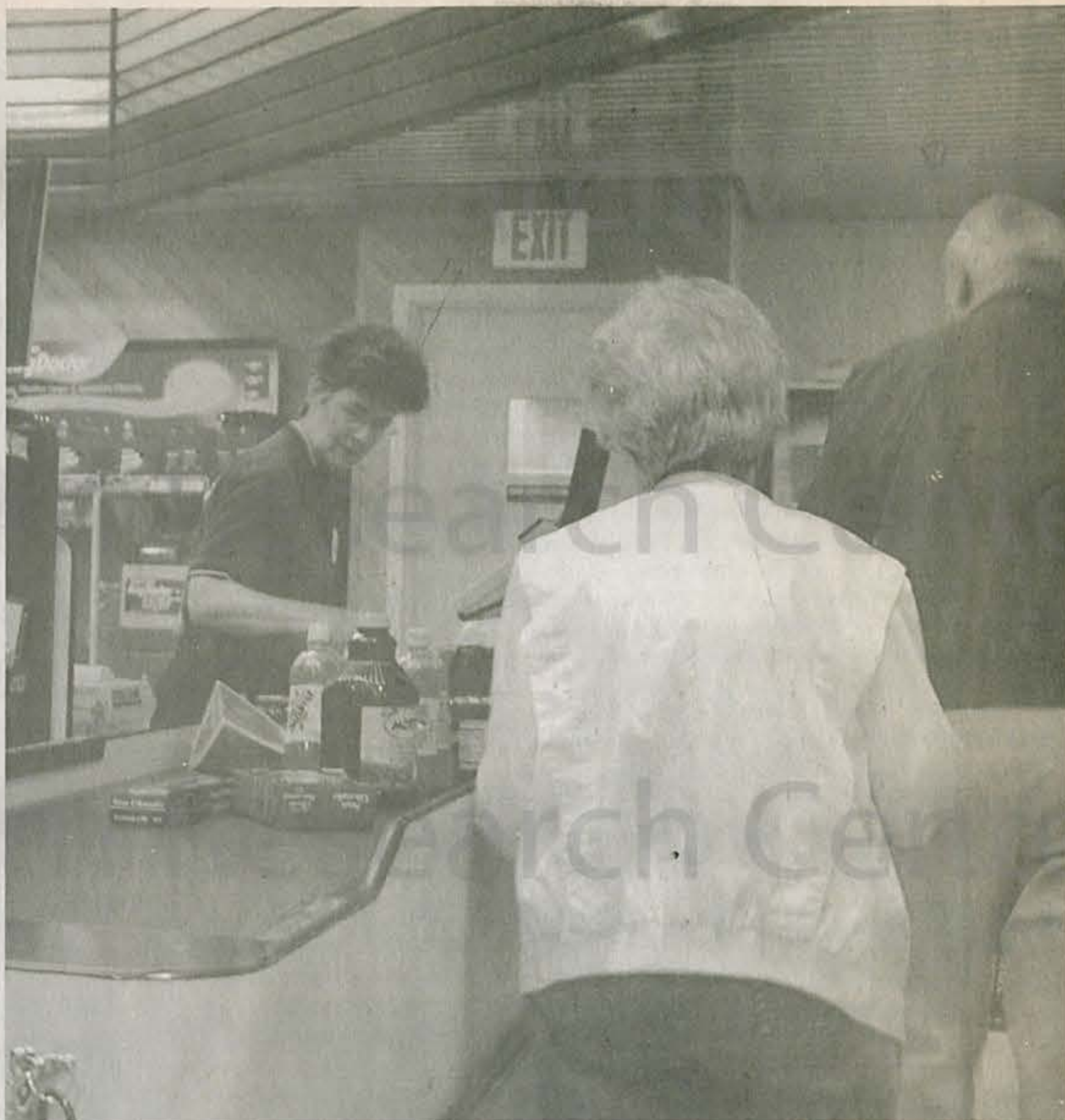
"We are very excited about the significant store construction and remodels which will occur in the next two years. Customers will see the difference in these new and improved store facilities...in ceasing our manufacturing operations, we are turning the business over to those who are experts in their field."

All of these changes will advance our long-term goal of significantly improving our supply chain operations, leading to greater service to our stores."

Giant's new store developments and remodeled facilities will be located in each of the company's Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia and Delaware regions.

"We have a number of stores on the drawing board in the D.C. area and we have three projects that we are working on. We are remodeling the Van Ness [store] on Connecticut

Avenue, we plan to build a store in Columbia Heights and a new food and pharmacy store in southeast Washington, D.C.," said Scher.



Marlene Hawthorne- Asst. Photo Editor

Business at local Giant stores remains normal despite the closing of Giant Food LLC's located in Landover Maryland. The closing was meant to try and improve overall store operations.

A Million More Headed to D.C. for New Black March

BY BRYAN I. WHITE
Contributing Writer

The second round of the Million Man March will take place here in the District this October. Organized by the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan and other black leaders, the march aims to strengthen black communities and leadership.

The Millions More Movement, as it is being called, will be held from Oct. 14-16, commemorating the 10th anniversary of the original march in 1995 that Farrakhan said will be the "beginning of the mobilization of an entire people to accept the responsibility to change our reality."

Speculation about the development of another Million Man March came out of a speech Farrakhan delivered in early May 2004.

Plans for the upcoming march include a day of absence from work and school on Friday, Oct. 14th for commuters to gather in the Nation's capitol. The following Saturday, there will be a mass assembly on the Mall. The movement will end Sunday, Oct. 16 with an interfaith/interdenominational mass service, according to the Millions More Movement publicist Chae' Carrier.

This time, women and



www.enca.com

Marchers will take to the streets once again for the "Millions More Movement" October 14-16 in downtown Washington.

homosexuals are encouraged to attend. Carrier said that it's important to involve the broader community.

"Our communities are suffering. It takes everyone to be involved," said Carrier. "The march is not just about men but for everyone to come together, strategize on ways to better the black communities and implement what they learned. The goal is to enhance their political, moral and social development."

Other leaders involved in

the planning and organizing include Rev. Jesse Jackson, Rev. Al Sharpton, distinguished scholar Dr. Ron Walters, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Dr. Julian Bond of NAACP, television personality and reporter Tavis Smiley and the first female Bishop in the AME church, Bishop Vashti McKenzie.

Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam will put \$400,000 towards the movement efforts.

Howard Graduates Make the District Sole Home

BY ADAM VICKS
Contributing Writer

Graduation is typically marked by sad goodbyes and relocations, but after four years of embracing this unique city as their home away from home, some students are planning to start their career right in Howard's backyard.

Amie McLain, a broadcast journalism major from New Orleans, Louisiana, is one of them. "I'm really going to miss Howard," McLain said, whose sentiments are also tied to a bond of over 100 sisters.

"I was just initiated into Alpha chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and it's really difficult to become apart of a beautiful sisterhood only to leave my line-sisters," McLain said.

But the bright young journalist is looking forward to staying in the city she calls wonderful. "There are a lot of opportunities here," she said.

"My first preference is to get a television job [on air] at a local station." But with Washington being the major market it is, McLain is keeping her options open. One thing that remains comforting for McLain is having friends nearby.

Print journalism major Darby Baham, one of McLain's closest friends and also a New Orleans native, will be attending graduate school here at Georgetown University. And with several other classmates sticking by, a bittersweet goodbye becomes just that easier.

"It gives me the hope of knowing that I will be close to the people that made my experience here memorable and wonderful," McLain said.

As for television production major Akiiki Kiiza, staying in the Washington area means very few visits home. Oceans separate the Uganda, Africa native from his native country and African roots, yet living in a city such as Washington, which draws many of its international students from Africa, Kiiza feels a little closer to home.

"Being able to be in contact with people from other African countries reminds me of home," he said. And Kiiza remains optimistic about his prospects of landing a production spot at a news company in such a big market.

"Since this is a city of government, with Washington being a major capital of the world, I feel my chances of breaking in are fairly good."

Still, some students feel as though their greatest opportunities are outside of Washington DC. Senior film production major Tyler McGhee will pursue his goals outside of the country.

"I'm going to be moving to the Bahamas when I graduate," McGhee said, "because my mother is an international contract manager and she's going to be opening up a new contract for her corporation there."

While there, McGhee, a native of Portland, Oregon, intends to take advantage of his exotic location by working on his production career: writing music and film scripts, shooting videos and preparing for when he moves to Hollywood.

For Vanessa Henderson, an English major from Flint, Michigan, her destination is less adventurous. Like many graduating seniors, for her it's home sweet home. "I really miss my friends and family and I think Flint is a pretty good place to start out my career."

For graduates looking to jumpstart their career, stay in touch with friends, and continue their education, the feeling is mutual.

Superintendent Introduces Plan to Boost Failing Schools

BY JABARI SMITH
Contributing Writer

When Kevin Horton attended School Without Walls Senior High School, a D.C. public school, he appreciated the school's neighborhood, diversity, and Advanced Placement opportunities.

However, as Horton enjoyed the benefits that School Without Walls provided, other D.C. public schools seemingly suffered as a result of their location in crime-infested areas and lack of funding. Change is on the way, as District of Columbia school superintendent Clifford B. Janey has released a three to five year plan that he is touting as fundamental redesign of the city's school system.

Janey's proposal suggests a

plan to tackle dismal academic achievement, proposing that a team of outside educators intervene to assist the lowest-achieving schools in the system.

According to the proposal, in the most extreme cases of low achievement, the management of schools could be turned over to outside groups, including universities and companies that have a history of running charter schools.

Janey's plan cited the example of KIPP, a company that operates 38 charter schools nationwide, including a middle school in Southeast Washington.

Howard students like Horton have some reservations about Janey's proposal.

"The idea of bringing in outside contractors sounds good if everything goes according to the

proposal," Horton said.

"However, if the contractors get into the position and use it for their own benefit then the change is going to happen at the expense of D.C. public school students," said the sophomore business management major. "Ultimately, the community needs to be assured that the school system can be trusted."

Sophomore advertising major Jasmine McClendon also has reservations "It's a good idea to bring new people in to improve the school system because the job hasn't been getting done," McClendon said.

"I think that Janey needs to let the management groups advise their own plan for improvement because I don't feel that his plan alone will be effective." The proposal also includes

modifying the traditional four-year high school calendar, which would provide students with the option of completing their studies in three years or taking up to five years to finish.

Additionally, Janey proposed increasing the number of high school credits required for graduation from 23.5 to 27.5 hours and introducing more International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, and vocational programs.

"I think that implementing more International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, and vocational programs will certainly be beneficial to students in the D.C. public school system," said sophomore international business major Joi

See SCHOOL, Metro A9



Marlene Hawthorne- Asst. Photo Editor

D.C. School Superintendant Clifford B. Janey's plan calls for adding more advanced courses to the Districts area schools.

Students Search for Affordable Housing Options

BY MORGAN NEVILLES-MOORE
Hilltop Staff Writer

With the District's increasing property values, rent can be steep on a student budget. Affordable housing is a major concern for students who were left without housing after January's infamous Administration building stampede.

Lauren Rainey, junior political science major knows this situation all too well, "I really wanted this apartment, huge rooms, nice area, fairly close to campus and metro accessible," said Rainey.

"[The] only problem is that the rent was \$750 a month not including utilities and I didn't want to entertain the thought of a roommate. I ended up living far from campus in an apartment with a live-in rat just because I wouldn't split the rent."

"Start your search early, look for places that include utilities in their rental price, and if all else fails get roommates. Prices can be ridiculous for decent apartments, splitting the rent could mean the world," said sophomore psychology major Allison McDaniel.

But affordability is not the only concern on students' minds. "You really need to look at the neighborhood, is it safe? And is it clean? Being really far from campus might not be the best answer," said junior nursing major Anisa James.

Dean of Residence life Charles Gibbs had advice for students who may have located a potential residence.

"Make sure your landlord is repu-

table, search records and speak to former or current tenants. Completely view the property and ask questions; u should create a relationship," said Dean Gibbs.

Residence Life does offer assistance to make the transition from campus life to off campus living an easier one. Each year Residence Life provides a housing fair where vendors from the D.C., Maryland and Virginia area come to speak to students about rentals, price comparisons and move-in packages.

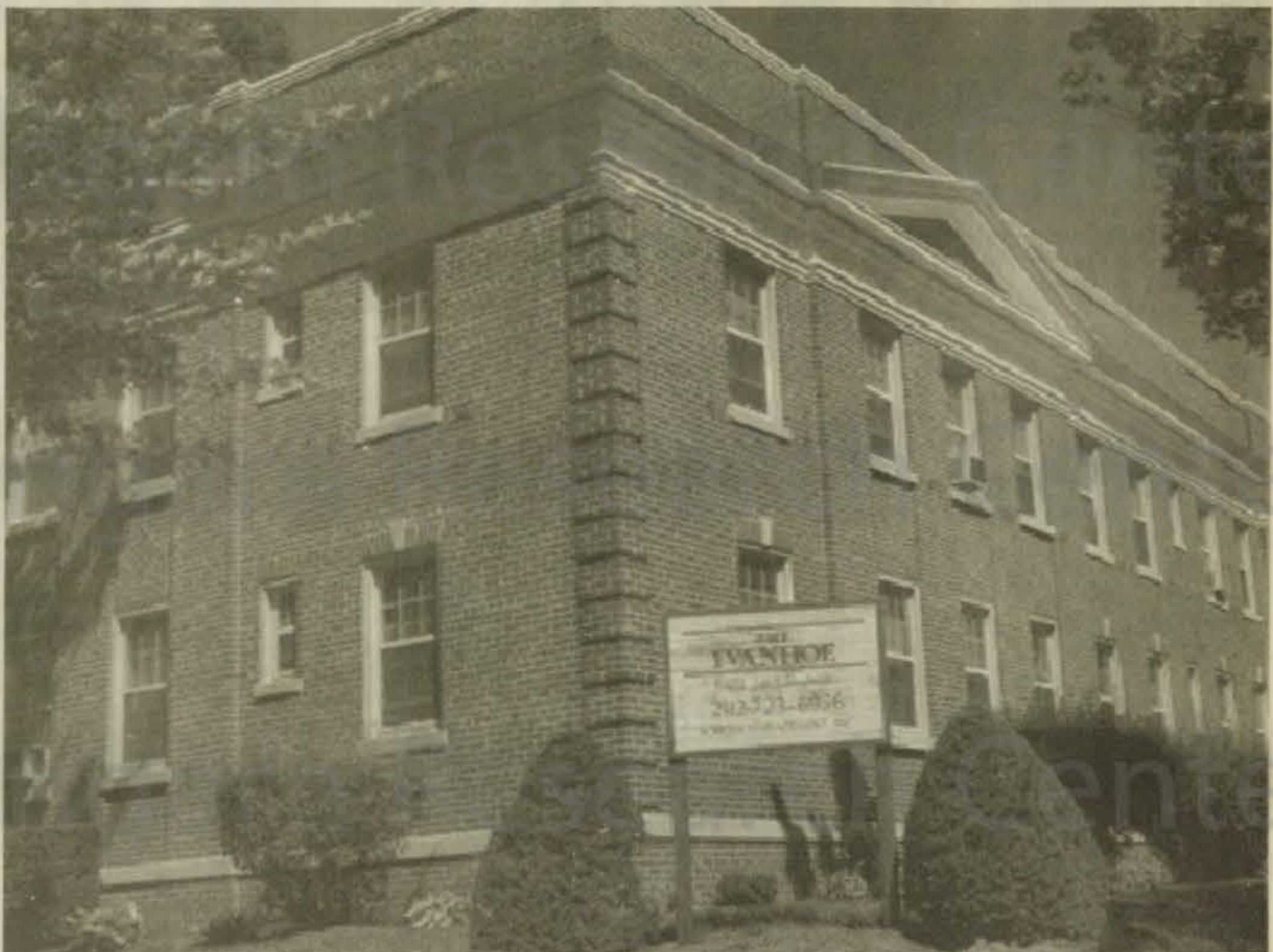
"This years fair took place on April 19th with a 450 student turnout. There were 10 vendors from the metropolitan area to speak with students and possibly begin the tenant process," said Charles Gibbs, Dean of Residence life. Some vendors presented, offered incentives to students who came out to show they were pursuing off campus housing.

"I didn't take advantage of the housing seminars, though I wish I had have because a friend of mine received reduced rent just for attending," said McDaniel.

Not all HU students are suffering in the hunt for housing, some have already found their off campus dream apartment and of course there are the 4200 students who successfully paid their deposit and RSVP application.

However for those who don't fall into those categories there is still hope.

"There are a number of vehicles students have at their disposal. There is a list, updated monthly of possible vendors wanting to rent to students on the residence life website," said Dean Gibbs.



Finding the perfect apartment at the perfect price has proven difficult for Howard students left without housing.

"The work for housing program over the summer puts students in a very good position for on-campus housing in the fall, if they have not already received it. A few spots may open and being on campus already gives them prime access to residence life if and when a spot become available."

Amid Controversy Mfume To Speak

NAACP, from Campus A1

greater society," McLeod said.

As Kwesi Mfume prepares to deliver the keynote address to Howard University's graduating class of 2005, questions loom over whether or not allegations that he gave special treatment to female employees working for the NAACP will hurt his upcoming bid for the United States Senate.

The allegations were disclosed last month in a confidential NAACP report that claimed Mfume gave raises and promotions to women he dated while serving as president of the civil rights organization. Mfume denies the allegations and his supporters note that the 22-page

report did not determine claims made against the former congressman were true. The report only says that Mfume's innocence would be "very difficult to defend persuasively" if a lawsuit were to be filed "...because of the impression that was created that a woman must provide sexual favors to Mr. Mfume or his associates in order to receive favorable treatment in the workplace."

"I don't engage in inappropriate behavior," Mfume told the Washington Post shortly after news of the allegations became public. "And if I did, I'm sure after nine years there, 10 years in the Congress and seven years on the Baltimore City Council, it would have been an issue long before..."

Though they admit the allegations could hurt Mfume in his quest to become only the second African-American currently serving in the Senate, many on Howard's campus say the news coming out so early diminishes the chances his candidacy has to replace Maryland Senator Paul Serbanes.

The allegations have not diminished support among members of Howard University's NAACP chapter, who say their fondness for Mfume dates back to his time heading the NAACP.

"It was an excellent choice for Howard University to ask Mr. Mfume to come and address the graduating seniors," said Sable Nelson, Vice President of Howard's NAACP chapter.

Janey Wants to Boost Schools By Adding Courses

SCHOOL, from Metro A8

Gladman. "This will only help to adequately prepare the students for life beyond high-school."

Janey's plan was created after months of discussions with the D.C. Education Compact, which is a consortium of school advocacy organizations, foundations, business leaders and elected officials who have been working for a year to find solutions to the system's most difficult problems.

"These initiatives cannot be seen as come and go turns in the wind because sustain-

ing the work and implementing it in quality fashion will for me be a defining point from here on in," said Janey at a news conference at Kelly Miller Middle School in Northeast.

According to an executive summary of Janey's plan, school officials are hoping for gradual improvement in reading and math scores over the next few years because of his plans to implement new learning standards.

Janey's plan is calling for schools to administer annual math and English tests to students in grades 3rd through 8th, as well as the 10th grade.

These tests are required under the federal No Child Left Behind Law.

Washington, D.C. native Courtney Williams is grateful that change is finally on the way for the D.C. public school system.

"It's a shame we have to bring outsiders in because we can't take care of home," said the junior legal communications major. "But I think the new managers may be able to turn the school system around, and even if they don't they can't make the system any worse than what it already is."

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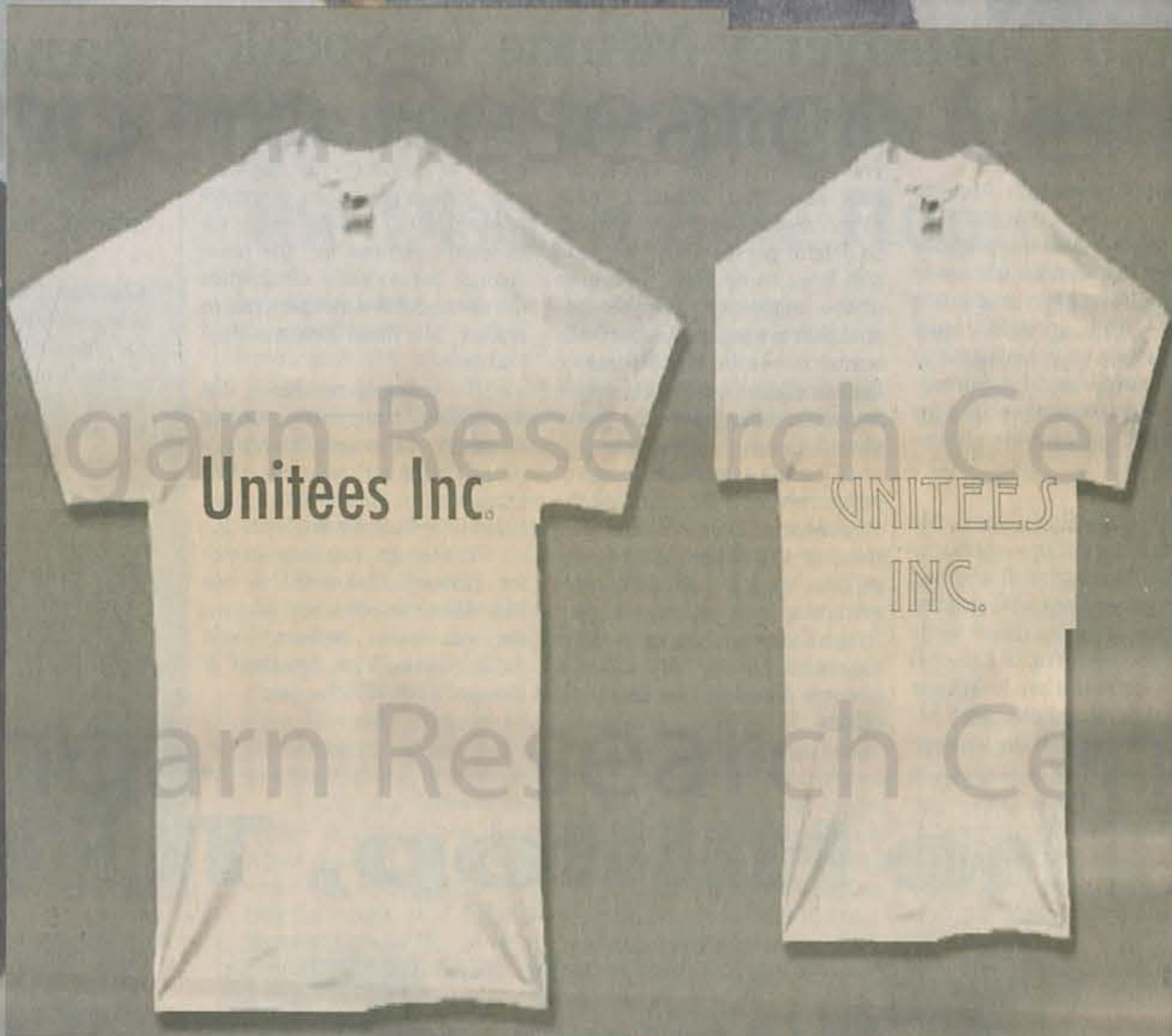
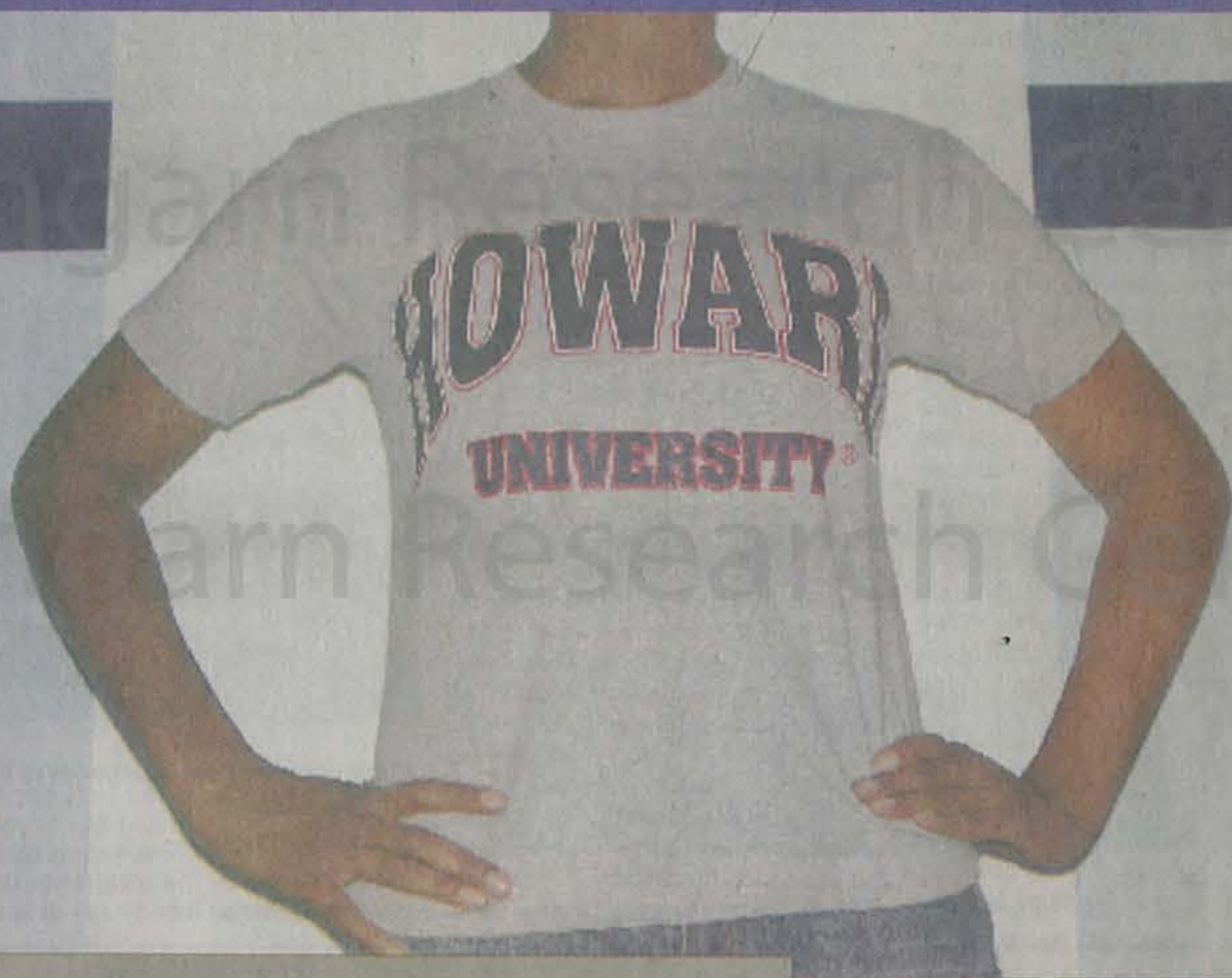
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Is It Just Me

BY JANA HOMES
Life & Style Editor

Or is spring a season of rejuvenation in more ways than one?

Every year, it never fails that the old gives way to the new, and cycles continue as they always have and always will. The cycle that strikes me most is the matriculation process that prepares to send forth yet another class of graduating seniors.

We all go through the academic rigors, the administrative woes, and the social comings and goings with one ultimate goal.

A little license plate holder that says "Howard University Alumni." And perhaps a nice car to put it on. And maybe a job to drive the car to. And I suppose the degree that gets you the job would be nice, too.

But as I watch the seniors, and am forced to listen to their endless, yet well earned gloating, I start to get a bit anxious, but more nostalgic. In addition to the college experience, there are those things that are exclusively Bison.

If it's not sledding down the valley on a lunch tray or strutting on The Yard for the premier HBCU Homecoming, it's facing off against The Institute for the title of The Real HU. There is an overabundance of memories you could take with you.

I've only been at Howard for two years and I've already got more than I can handle, so I know those who have been here long enough to earn a degree have a wide plethora to choose from. I'm sure this year's crop of seniors will carry as many as possible out into the world to become "Leadership for America and The Global Community." But along with those memories, The Howard University Class of 2005 will take with them the lifelong spirit and love of the Howard family.

By this point, you may be wondering, "Who in the heck is this? Where in the heck is Keith?" and maybe "What is wrong with this girl?"

I can't address the last question, but it is because of the matriculation process that is turning out the Class of 2005 that I seem to have interrupted your regularly scheduled programming.

Lifelines was the most read and most anticipated column in The Nation's Most Wanted Paper, *The Hilltop*. The ever-inventive Keith Laing, who was responsible for the wit that was *Lifelines*, is among those taking "The Long Walk," today.

Through some unknown, but hopefully wise divine plot, I have been selected as one of the editor's of the Life & Style section, and with that honor comes this here portion of the left hand side of the page.

So, here's to Keith for teaching me everything I know (don't fault him, too much) and for leaving so I could take over his job.

You have reached the Life & Style section at lifeandstyle0506@yahoo.com. Nobody is available, because Jana let the power go to her head and we had to take her out back and knock her down a few pegs. But feel free to leave a message.

4yrs x Graduation = (1/4 Life Crisis)?

BY SHALEEM THOMPSON
Hilltop Staff Writer

As the day of graduation arrives many seniors began reflecting upon their lives at Howard University and are nostalgic about the times that they had while others are eager to step into the job world with hopes that they would be the next Donald Trump or Oprah Winfrey.

In reality the perfect job that they are dreaming of may not be there, waiting for them. As a result some seniors are forced to return to their homes and live with their parents, while others search for a job to meet their swelling cost of living, as support from their parents may have dwindled.

As some young people emerge from college with a degree, and what they feel are inadequate abilities to face the rigors of "The Real World," they may feel overwhelmed and under prepared. This syndrome has been dubbed the quarter-life crisis, whose pop culture reference

is derived from the troubles of the common mid-life crisis. "Personally, I am going through [a crisis], right now, since I am trying to decide on what grad schools or jobs I should apply for," said senior chemical engineering major Andy Hai-Tang, who expressed yet another of the contributing factors of the problem.

"The transition is hard and I realize that I have not accomplished everything that I wanted to now that these four years are coming to an end," continued Tang. Other students understand, but seem to have a case of the crisis.

But others were not as lucky as Mohammed. Many students have been feeling the side effects of the condition, find it comforting to know that they are not alone in the overly stressed state. Others are finding solace in the fact that they can finally identify the problem, as there was previously no name to describe what they had been



Maya Gilliam - Senior Photo Editor

After the excitement of graduation and the chairs are taken off of the Yard, many seniors are left wondering what the next step will be in the new journey of life.

experiencing.

"I am glad that there is a name for the stress that I have been going through the past couple of months," said senior philosophy major Cornelius Graves. Contributing to his ailment are many factors, including his plans to place

himself right back into the classrooms from which he was recently released.

"I am planning to take a year off and go to law school but it is very hard to find a job," he explained. And even those who think they have some plan still face the anxiety

of not living up to the post-grad and circumstance hype.

"I want to have fun but at the same time I have to think about finding a job since I don't want to go home and not do anything," expressed Graves.

\$ Students Learn How to Make Money Matter \$

BY CHARLAE WASHINGTON
Hilltop Staff Writer

Money is nothing new to many Howard students. Whether the source of income has been a job or simply Mom and Dad, most students have had access to money at some time or another.

Money management is a different story. Many college students get into debt or end up spending more money than they should on items such as clothes, entertainment, and food.

Money management is an essential skill to have, especially when many students are gearing up for joining the summer work force, which may generate more money than they usually have during the school year.

Many students are not aware of the various money management options available to them. With so many choices available, making the right decisions about what to do with money can prove a daunting task.

Most students have checking or savings accounts, but have not looked into advanced financial options they could be taking advantage of.

"I have never invested my money, but I do have checking and savings accounts," said sophomore biology major Tristin Hurley, who has had several jobs.

Freshman broadcast journalism

major Ashley Southall plans to invest her summer earnings.

"Currently, I have two checking accounts, one savings account, one money market account, and one active credit card," said Southall, who works at Chevy Chase Bank in Washington, D.C.

"The more I learn about banking, the better I manage my own funds," said Southall, who has a leg up on other students who might not be in the know.

Those without insight into fiscal matters may not be as financially savvy. Nevertheless, an important place to start is to learn not to spend more than you can afford.

"Staying out of debt is key," said Terrance Lagale, president and CEO of New Century Investor, an investment research and financial information company. "It takes an average of eight years to pay off a credit card with a \$1,000 dollar limit."

Some smart and safe ways for students to invest begins with their banking institution. Two options available through most banks are money market and certificates of deposit (CDs).

"A savings account is very necessary. Students should have one — preferably a Certificate of Deposit. With a CD, you deposit funds into an account with the federal government and it sits there for a specified period accruing

interest paid by the federal government," said Southall.

"Some banks allow you to make deposits throughout the time period or invest the money in other accounts simultaneously. Deposits are insured up to \$100,000 dollars at banks with the FDIC logo. At maturity, the funds can be used at the owner's discretion," further explains Southall.

"A money market is a deposit account that allows you to pool money that the bank or federal government will use to help businesses. Your returns on your investment vary with the businesses' success. It's insured so you can't lose your investment up to a certain dollar amount," Southall said.

Another key factor in smart money management is to keep the future in mind, and avoid focusing solely on the present. Short-term thinking can cause people to fail financially.

"Rich people plan for three generations while poor people plan for Saturday night," said Lagale. For students, thinking ahead can be particularly useful.

"Savings come in handy during that post-baccalaureate adjustment period," reminds Southall.



Armond Brown - Staff Photographer

As commencement ends, seniors will have to learn how to manage their finances.

One doesn't have to have a lot of money to manage it well. Starting as early as possible will set the stage for one's entire financial life. Procrastinating about setting up finances in a responsible fashion will only hurt the individual, in the end. If one doesn't manage their money well now, they may not have any left to manage in the future.

Post-Grad Romance Can Flourish

BY YASMINE PARISH
Hilltop Staff Writer

It has been said by many that Howard University is a place where long-lasting relationships are rarely cultivated, while the idea of "friends with benefits" flourishes in its place.

This trend seems to go far beyond the Howard community — according to reports filed in 2000 by The Census Bureau, black men and women are least likely to marry. It's reported that only about forty-two percent of black men will marry and thirty-one percent of black women will marry.

Such findings leave more questions than conclusions. Is the whole black community into the notion of friends with benefits, and how are the 2005 graduates handling their

uphill battle for love? What are Howard graduates looking for? After four, maybe five or six, years have the 2005 graduates found love within these hallowed halls?

"I don't have a boyfriend now so [graduating and moving away] will not affect me," says Deidra Carr, senior biology major. Though Carr is not currently in a relationship she has very distinct views of what she wants and doesn't want in a potential partner.

"I would prefer someone who is not in medical school, though I'll probably end up with another med student since that is who I'll be spending my time with," mused Carr, who is not the only student with a few hopes for their future mate.

"She must have a cool personality and be very down to

earth. Her background must be clean and she must have something going for her," said senior finance major Rodney Griffin.

Carr and Griffin agree they only expect the best and will only look for the best.

Although many seniors are not on their way to the alter anytime soon, there are a few whose time at Howard has paid off in the form of companionship and commitment.

"I am in a relationship with Jamaul Wells," said senior English major Freda Henry. "We met in the chapel and have been together for two years."

Henry is predicting longevity beyond "the long walk" for their relationship.

"I believe it will continue after graduation. We will be moving to the same city so not

See ROMANCE, L&S B3



Nicole Reed - Staff Photographer

While romance on Howard's campus happens, it is usually "friends with benefits" and not a long term commitment.

Bison Take a Bite Out of The Big Apple

BY MIKE ARCEANUX
Hilltop Staff Writer

While some Howard students are returning home to revel in summer bliss, others will embark on internships and a city that seems to be shining as a hot spot is one often touted as the world's capital.

"I got the internship by networking with various corporate sponsors at investment banks and building relationships with them during my freshman year. Other than having a wonderful relationship with the sponsors of the School of Business, I went through the basic summer-hire process that most investment banks on wall street use," said sophomore international business major Fred Hines, who will spend a second year with an investment banking group with Merrill Lynch.

Many students chose to treat their internship search the same way they prepare for an exam. Bryan Hughes, a junior marketing major from Bowie, MD, researched extensively about the company that he hoped to intern

for. "I studied for the interview by researching the company, its businesses, and how I can contribute to the success of the business," Hughes said. Hughes' preparation paid off with an offer from Merrill Lynch. Hughes will spend his summer on the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

For other students, opportunities presented themselves by chance. Susan Simmons, sophomore public relations major from Laurelton, NY, was surprised at how she landed her internship with Pierce Mattie Public Relations. "I actually secured this internship because I interviewed the internship coordinator for a class assignment," Simmons said. "She asked me to give her my resume and about a month later I got a call saying I was hired."

After the months of searching, filling out applications, and traveling for interviews, those successful in securing internship positions in New York are ready to begin their summer.

"I'm really excited to be going to New York this summer, because of the fact that I know that I'll remember it for a large part of my life. It may seem daunting at first, but I'll come back in the fall a much more professionally experienced person," said Hines.

Now that the internships have been obtained, internees can now look forward to partaking in all the amusement the city of New York has to offer. Indeed, many internee place much stock in the adage that "all work and no play makes for a very dull day."

Crystal Tate, a junior broadcast journalism major from Detroit, was able to enjoy New York while dedicating several hours to her internship at VH1 last summer. Tate now expresses a special fondness for New York. "New York City is hot, exciting, and there's always something fresh and new," Tate said. "You'll never run out of things to do."

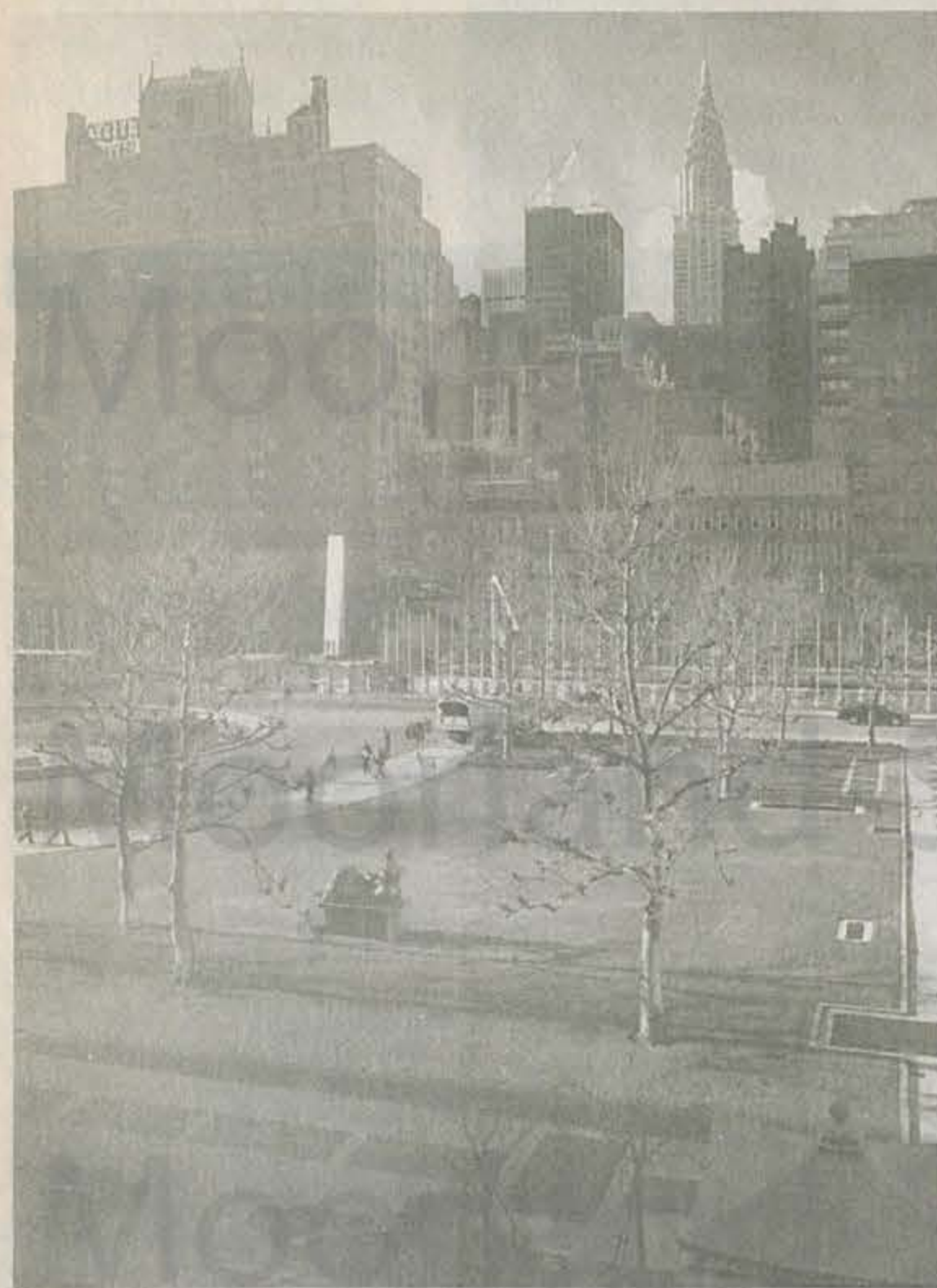
Although one may never run out of things to do in New York, they may certainly run out of money. Not all internships are paid positions, which will leave some students scrambling

to find a second job in order to cover their expenses. Native New Yorkers, like junior film major Iman Powe-Maynard, are well aware of just how expensive it can get.

"It is very costly to live in New York without a paying job," Powe-Maynard said, mentioning that she would have to work a second job in addition to her internship with Music Television Networks.

Where internees differ in stipends or lack thereof, each shares the same goal of landing a job in their chosen career field after graduation. Jozen Cummings, a Howard alumnae, who now works at *Vibe* magazine, where he interned two years ago, has advice for those with hopes of turning their internship into a job offer.

"All too often students underestimate the work they've done and fail to keep in touch with the people after they leave," Cummings said. He encourages students interning in New York this summer to work hard and build lasting relationships.



Marlene Hawthorne, Asst. Photo Editor

During the summer, "The city that never sleeps" will be invaded by a host of Howard students.

What Will Happen to Friendships Over the Summer Break?

BY JABARI SMITH
Contributor Writer

As freshman marketing major Parish McKeithan prepared to head back to her hometown of Newport News, Virginia for summer break, she could not help but to get emotional as she reflected upon her freshman experience.

In a year that proved to be stressful and exciting, one thing that stood out in McKeithan's mind was the fact that she had developed several strong

and nurturing friendships that she was determined not to let fall by the wayside.

"I believe that my biggest accomplishments this year came in the form of friendship and over the summer I plan to keep in touch with my closest friends to make sure that our relationships don't change," said McKeithan.

Indeed, many students like McKeithan are concerned about having ample contact with their friends over the three month long summer

break, which can be the determining factor in deciding whether or not friendships are lasting.

Undoubtedly, the pressures of internships, summer school, and summer jobs don't make keeping in touch with friends who are across the country any easier.

According to sophomore legal communications major Jeanie Fougere, keeping in touch with friends over the summer will prove to be one of the most exhausting and time-consuming tasks one will undertake, however it is also very worthwhile.

"I think utilizing the telephone and instant messenger services are essential for keeping in touch with friends over the summer because they are both effective and efficient methods of communication," said Fougere.

James Carpenter, on the other hand, will have a more difficult time keeping in touch because of his rigorous summer schedule.

"I have to report to ROTC camp two weeks after I get home, which means that for a little more than a month I will have no contact whatsoever with friends or family," said Carpenter, a sophomore international business major.

However, for many Howard University students who have opted to make D.C. their home for the summer, keeping in touch with friends may prove to be less difficult.

Sophomore fashion merchandising major Aikeisha Jones is one of the many students who have decided to make the District their summer home and is looking forward to spending the summer with many of her friends.

"Last year, I stayed in DC for summer school and I ended up further cultivating some of my friendships," said sophomore psychology major Tracy Curtis.

"One friend lived in my building, and we would get together with some other friends to play spades and just hang out. I also ended up going to the amusement parks a few times and getting to explore DC and make more memories with the people who were still

around," reminisces Javier, who says she enjoyed last summer, but has opted to reconnect with older friends home. Several students will be utilizing travel as a method of keeping in touch with their friends. In addition to staying in contact through phone calls and emails, many friends are planning to visit each other sporadically throughout the summer.

"I'll be hosting about six friends during the 4th of July weekend," said sophomore finance major Rhyen Curtis.

"My friends will be visiting me for 'The Taste in Chicago,' as well as just to chill and hang out after not seeing each other for a while," mentioned Curtis.

Yet, regardless of the method utilized to keep in touch with friends over the long summer break, the state of friendships, upon return to Howard in the fall, may be based on how well students kept in touch.



Armond Brown, Staff Photographer

While friendships have blossomed during the Fall and Spring semester, the summer will be the truest test of longevity.

Putting the Vacation Back In Summer

BY BRITTNEY JOHNSON
Asst. Life & Style Editor

With the semester finished and finals finally behind them, many students are heading into the summer with big plans to kick back and relax before the start of a new semester, and for many graduating seniors, a new job.

Junior psychology major Kisha Jones is counting the days until her trip to Cancun.

"I am going to Cancun to relax with my friends after the end of a busy semester," said Jones, who fortunately only has to pay for a plane ticket.

"It's my friend's birthday, so her mom is paying for the hotel stay, but the tickets are expensive enough," she continued. Jones is not the only one in for a trip before next fall.

Many students are taking advantage of the long summer break to vacation with family and friends in exotic locations. Justin Dunnayant, a freshman history major, enjoys traveling, and is anticipating his trip with the archaeology department to Belize.

"We are going to stay in the rainforest and work on mine sites," he said. The two-week trip, excluding airfare, is going to cost Dunnayant \$1500, but he doesn't mind, "I like diversity,

and I can't wait to meet the locals. I like to experience the world outside of America," he said.

The opportunity to observe and interact with other cultures is very appealing to some students. Before he begins his teaching job in July, graduating senior marketing major Ian Ward, is making plans to visit Greece.

"I am looking forward to learning about other cultures and seeing what life is like outside the states," he said.

Whether students are traveling abroad, or here in the U.S, vacations can be quite expensive, especially on a student's budget.

Freshman political science major Paul McGehee is going to Hawaii this summer, which is his destination of choice for obvious reasons, "It's a tropical paradise, and it has a really chill, laid-back atmosphere. It's also a completely different culture," said McGehee.

The prices however, are not as pleasant as the weather. A round trip plane ticket to Hawaii can cost upward of \$800, but travel and hotel stay are not the only factors that make the trip costly. "If you go to McDonalds, everything is like \$1,000, it's so expensive. Everything is so inflated because it has to be shipped in," said McGehee.

Other students, like sophomore

psychology major Megan Goins, are not worried about the cost.

"I am very excited to go to Miami, that is where everyone hot is going to be for Memorial Day," said Goins.

Many so-called "hot spots," such as Miami, are notorious for jacking up hotel prices for holiday weekends, and other popular times for travel. Some people try to avoid these increases by shopping around early, while others pay the price, regardless of how steep it is.

"I don't think it is ridiculously expensive," said Goins. "And even if it is, it's still well worth it. I can't wait to party with my friends and lay on the beach," she said.

Students often overlook travel agencies when making their plans. The American Society of Travel Agents, ASTA, offers a wide-variety of services for travelers in need of assistance. Many students, who plan trips by themselves or with friends, may be making uninformed decisions, which may be avoided with the help of a travel agent.

The ASTA website offers advice to travelers, and an index that conveniently allows site users to find a travel agent near them. It also has links that give up to date information on popular locations. For example, a connected link,



Marlene Hawthorne, Asst. Photo Editor

Even though students have taken exotic vacations during Spring Break, many students are planning on making the summer even better.

travelsense.com, is currently alerting anyone visiting Cancun that there is a decreasing amount of law enforcement patrolling the area—important information for young people planning on vacationing there.

From airfare, to lodging, a travel

agent is a one-stop shopping center, and valuable resource, for anyone planning to party, or just take a break.

But whether students use these services or plan trips on their own, there is a buzz of excitement about summer traveling for Howard students.

Summer Preview

Fashion! Music! Movies!

BY MIKE ARCEANUX
Hilltop Staff Writer

The 2005 Summer music season promises to be a scorcher with a bevy of new releases and concerts set for the coming months.

Kanye West, who amassed a great deal of success last year, with the release of his debut album, "The College Dropout," will seek to duplicate his accomplishments with his sophomore effort, "Late Registration," in July. "Diamonds," the first single from the album, has already been leaked to radio and is garnering West's typical level of hype.

In hopes of creating a buzz for her sixth album, "The Cookbook", rapper-producer-songwriter and reality TV show host Missy Elliot has leaked two songs: "On and On," produced by the Neptunes, and "Lose Control," featuring Fatman Scoop and "Crunk & B"

sensation Ciara.

Rapper Common will attempt to recapture past glory with his release of "Be". The album is already being hailed as a classic by well-respected Hip Hop publications, like "XXL."

Following the lead of the many rappers to also release as a part of a group, Atlanta bred rapper T.I. will join The Pimp Squad Clique on their debut album, "25 to Life."

Other summer hip hop releases include albums by Fat Joe, Cassidy, Tony Yayo, Styles P, Memphis Bleek, Joe Budden, Ghostface, and a host of new acts.

In the world of R&B, expect new music from The Queen of Hip Hop Soul, Mary J. Blige in September. Also looking to release a new project in September

is singer Mya, whose new album is currently titled "Control Freak."

Another female vocalist with an album in the works is the woman behind 2002's "Emotional Rollercoaster," Vivian Green. Her last album, "A Love Story," was well received by the neo-soul set and many others. Also adding another chapter to the books will be Syleena Johnson,

whose "Chapter 1: Love, Pain & Forgiveness" was followed by "Chapter 2: The Voice."

With a new label, new sitcom on the WB, and a new album set to drop sometime this summer, Toni Braxton hopes to follow in the footsteps of Mariah Carey and deliver a hit comeback album this year.

Ray J, who is more known for his status as the brother of singer Brandy than for his previous attempts at attaining his own stardom, will release a new album. This June, "Raydiation" may prove to be more of a good thing than ever before.

But those not under the expansive Hip Hop umbrella may be attempting to end the genre's reign. On the pop front, new albums are expected from John Mayer, Shakira, and Christian Aguilera.

Summers full of new music breed

summers full of tours. The summer tour season looks to be promising for concert-goers with four tours already announced.

Destiny's Child will kick off their North American tour this summer. So far only Mario has been added to the bill. Beyonce, Kelly, and Michelle will touch down in D.C. when they perform at the MCI Center on July 31.

After wrapping his stint as the opening act on Alicia Keys' "Diary" tour, John Legend will kick off his first headlining tour in support of his platinum debut album, "Get Lifted." Tweet will join Legend on the tour as the opening act.

Hip Hop's two highest selling stars, Eminem and 50 Cent will team up for a summer tour. Other acts on the tour roster include Lil Jon & the East Side Boyz, G-Unit, D-12, Obie Trice, and newcomer Status Quo.

BY JABARI SMITH
Contributing Writer

As students celebrate the end of, yet, another academic year at Howard University, they also celebrate the arrival of summer, which means internships, cross-country road trips, and the highly-anticipated summer movie season.

Similar to the holiday movie season, the summer movie season expands each year and this summer is certainly no exception as Hollywood's biggest studios prepare to release their blockbuster hopefuls.

Many Howard students plan to make time for the movie theatres this summer in between working, summer school, and simply relaxing. According to sophomore architecture major Hillary Thomas the summer movie season proves to be extremely exciting because, regardless of your age or gender, there is always a movie that you

simply cannot wait to see.

"People always anticipate summer blockbusters whether they care to admit it or not," said Thomas. "Besides, summer films receive all the hype because most students from elementary school to college have more time for leisure activities."

May jump starts the summer movie season with a few sure fire blockbusters. "Celeb-ptaunte" Paris Hilton makes her first big-screen movie debut in the "House of Wax" remake, which was released May 6 and is sure to bring droves of Hilton fans and detractors, alike, to the theatres.

"I can't wait to see "House of Wax" because it's one of few scary movies coming out this summer and I love scary movies," said sophomore Spanish major Ashley Denson. "I also can't wait to see if Paris Hilton can act or not."

This May 25 also signals the arrival of another Star Wars epic. It's yet,

again light sabers, droids, and Darth Vader, with George Lucas' space saga as it comes full circle in "Episode III: Revenge of the Sith."

Following May up nicely, June brings action and intrigue in what is gearing up to be the summer's most anticipated flick, "Batman Begins," opening in theatres nationwide on June 17. According to Entertainment Weekly, the release of "Batman Begins" is so big that no other movie distributor dared to release a movie on the same day.

Starring Christian Bale as Bruce Wayne, "Batman Begins" tells the tale of young Bruce and his journey to becoming Batman.

Other notable June releases include "The Honeyymooners," a big screen adaptation of the 1950s sitcom by the same name. Starring Cedric the Entertainer, Gabrielle Union, Mike Epps, and Regina Hall this is a comedy

about two working-class couples that are united by their friendship and get-rich-quick schemes. According to sophomore film major Deven Clark Cedric the Entertainer's film is the only summer movie that will have him to rushing to theaters.

"The Honeymooners" is the only movie that I'm excited to see this summer because it is one of the few films that I've seen advertised with an all-star, black cast, said Clark.

"War of the Worlds" is another June release that is sure to be an epic film, in the same vein as "Titanic" and "Independence Day." With Tom Cruise as the star and Steven Spielberg as the director, "War of the Worlds" is poised to break box office records this summer.

July's big blockbuster hopefuls include "Fantastic Four," "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," and "Bad News Bears."

And though it used to be that the summer movie season was over by the beginning of August, this year studios have extended their blockbusters into August with the anticipated releases of the Steve Martin and Beyonce vehicle "The Pink Panther," and the 1970's sitcom big screen adaptation of "The Dukes of Hazzard," which also marks the big screen debut of pop star Jessica Simpson.

"I am looking forward to the steamy blockbuster hits in the latter part of the summer because I will have raised enough money from working and my internship will have come to an end," said freshman finance major Austin Travis.

Indeed, the summer movie season, from May through August, is sure to be an action-packed, laugh-inducing, spine-tingling joy ride from audiences of all ages.

BY YASMINE PARISH
Hilltop Staff Writer

School is out and summer is here, once again, and its time to show some skin.

As Howard University students begin their various internships, summer jobs, or traveling sprees there are a few must have for the summer of '05.

"Hot pants are a must for those with long legs, this summer, and maybe even those with not so long legs if they're confident enough," said sophomore fashion merchandising major Aikeisha Jones, of a trend that has made the rounds like many fashion trends have a tendency to do.

And hot pants are not the only item to move from being looked down upon to being highly coveted.

"Bermuda shorts are really hot right now, too. When it comes to ladies, espadrilles and wedge heels are going to be a popular choice," continued Jones.

Freshman fashion merchandising major Tracie Minh Vo wants the ladies to make better fashion choices over previous summers.

"Embrace flats this summer, rather than a pair of flip-flops. Embellished

flats will do great with a tea length skirt. The Bohemian look is very feminine this go around, so think flowy," advised Minh Vo.

When it comes to trends, this summer's fashion has plenty of them.

"There are lots of Grecian, Nautical, and Moroccan inspired pieces," said fashion merchandising professor Doreen Vernon.

"Though you may not see anyone walking around in a sailor's suit or a toga there will be signs of the trend in the details and shape of a garment. This season's style is all about the little details!" predicts Vernon.

Though the trends are plenty this year, some staples will return.

"Jeans are always in," said Jones. And this ever-popular piece may be the key for those without the funds to acquire this season's big ticket items.

Mixing classic with a few trendy pieces seems to be the best option, when you may not have a big enough paycheck to buy a whole new wardrobe.

There are also a lot of retailers that have trendy items for a lot less.

Old Navy has long been a great place to get more bang for the buck. The retailer is currently running sales on Bermuda shorts, for as low as \$19.50, and Grecian inspired tie sandals, for \$24.50.

Trendy accessories are also great ways to get in on the trend without breaking the bank.

"Add some flair [to your outfit] with a clutch purse or

hobo handbag. You can also accentuate the neckline with some great neckwear; turquoise and coral. The dropped neckline on tops is a must have detail and works well with layered necklaces," said Minh Vo.

"On the wrists, self-gles. or bant he options, not metals," he continued.

For guys fashion summer classics are a must.

Freshman, marketing major, Laron Howard says, "Give me a nice polo style shirt, preferably Lacoste, and some nice yet simple jeans, I am good to go"

Howard continues by adding, "It's always good to have some white on white [Nike air] forces."

According to Minh Vo, three must haves for any fashionable guy this summer, "must haves for this summer are plaid shorts, flip-flops and a great pair of sunglasses. Let go of the pink and move into more masculine colors like oranges and blues."

"Discard your rubber bracelets, those have got to go! Instead, opt for more fashionable accessories such as watches, bracelets, and neckwear. Try something different than diamond studs for those who have their ear pierced. Mix and match with your outfit, there are a variety of choices out there," said Minh Vo.

Before you step foot into the office of that high powered internship, on the sales floor of your retail job, or simply out of the house, remember, step with style!

Ladies should think feminine and flowy, mixing new trends with old classics and the guys should keep the look classic, but switch up the color scheme a bit.



Students in Search of Their True Love Despite Leaving

ROMANCE, from L&S B1

too much will change in terms of distance."

Many seniors that are in relationships like Henry and Wells', are not moving to the same city after matriculation.

"I am in a relationship and it can continue [despite the distance] but it will take a lot of work," says senior marketing major Adam Guthrie.

Even when the odds seemed to be against them, a few graduates have managed to have to find love on Howard's campus.

"We love each other dearly and I'm sure our relationship will prosper



for years to come," said Henry.

On a campus where women outnumber men and there are myriads of beautiful people, it can be quite a

feat to commit to one person. From distrust to the "friends with benefits" complex all the way to the "we're just talking" syndrome, Bison love seems

hard to come by.

Many students are simply engrossed in the physical aspect of relationships and do not take time to

nurture the relationship emotional and spiritual ways.

"Everyone is still young, they feel that they have eternity to have meaningful relationships, so why start now when I always have later?" said freshman physician assistant major Tevis Gordon.

"Relationships are hard during college and I'm sure they are even harder when you graduate" Gordon continues, "but they are not impossible."

In the end, despite the statistics and all the temptation one faces, when it's time for something meaningful, as Adam Guthrie and so many others believe, "love conquers all."

Nicole Reed- Staff Photographer

Phil Jackson To Make Possible Coaching Return

BY BRADLEY WETE
Contributing Writer

Nine-time NBA champion, head coach Phil Jackson may be making his return to Hollywood or his debut as a head coach in the Big Apple.

Since former head coach Rudy Tomjanovich left the Los Angeles Lakers because of sickness midway through last season, rumors have swirled that Jackson would be contacted and re-hired to coach the Lakers again. Competing with the Lakers for Jackson, The New York Knicks are also making efforts to attract Jackson to coach their team.

The Knicks' team president Isiah Thomas met with Jackson recently to express his organization's interest. Jackson has always had a bit of interest when it comes to coaching the Knicks, the team he once played for during the mid 1960's and 70's.

Former New York Knick legend and Jackson's teammate, Earl "The Pearl" Monroe, believes that he will return to coach the Lakers, "I've talked to a couple of people pretty close to Phil," Monroe said to the New York Post. "It's a good shot to try to get him. In terms of his own legacy, I know he should go to someplace where there's a guy they can build around and become a winning team," he

said.

"I don't see with the Knicks they have that type of team in place at this point. I'd like to see him go out and coach a team that's competitive. The team they have is not as competitive. They need a couple more components," he added.

In Jackson's tell-all book, "The Last Season," which chronicled his tenure as Lakers head coach from 1999 to 2004, he wrote that he asked the Lakers' general manager Mitch Kupchak to trade Bryant because he was difficult to coach.

Bryant has also been accused of being responsible for the demise of the Laker's dynasty that won three straight championships from 2000 to 2002. Bryant reportedly made management choose between him and bringing back center Shaquille O'Neal when he was making his decision as a free agent to return to the Lakers last summer.

Jackson did not like the changes they were making and decided not come back and coach the Lakers. Bryant eventually returned to the Lakers and O'Neal was traded to the Miami Heat for Brian Grant, Lamar Odom and Caron Butler.

Sophomore chemical engineering major and Lakers fan, Maurice Chevalier, thinks that

the Lakers would be making a great decision to bring back Jackson.

"I would be ecstatic if the Lakers brought back Phil Jackson, just because I think Kobe Bryant is the closest thing to Michael Jordan and to see him without Shaquille O'Neal, knowing what Jackson did for Jordan would be great to see," said Chevalier.

Sophomore African-American studies major, Omare Kinsey, thinks that another championship would be in the near future for the Lakers if they brought back Jackson and that Jackson and Bryant's relationship would work.

"Kobe Bryant and Phil Jackson both want to win. It might take time for them to put their differences aside, but they will get a championship," said Kinsey.

In 14 seasons as a head coach, Jackson is 832-316 with a .725 winning percentage, the best in NBA history.

His 175 playoff wins are also the best ever. The Lakers were 34-48 in their first season without Jackson and failed to make the playoffs, but made the playoffs consecutively every year thereafter.

Suns Guard Named MVP



Last Sunday, Phoenix Suns guard, Steve Nash, was announced as the NBA's Most Valuable Player of the Year. Nash finished with 1,066 points along with 65 first place votes. Shaquille O'Neal of the Miami Heat came in second place with 1,032 votes with 58 first place votes, making the MVP race the fourth closest margin in voting. The Canadian point guard became just the sixth guard and the second international player to win the award. "I definitely won this award because of my role on the team," Nash said to ESPN.com. "I didn't win this because I overpower people or I'm dominating people with physical ability, whether it's jumping ability or strength or height," he added. Nash helped turn around the Suns teams who finished last season with 29 wins to a team with a league-best of 62 wins.



After a hasty departure from the Lakers organization last season, Phil Jackson has been in talks with his former team, as well as the Knicks and Cavaliers to possibly fill their coaching vacancies.

Search Begins for New Coach

BY CARYN GRANT
Asst. Sports Editor

In hopes of improving on this season's disappointing 5-23 record, Howard University has set out to find a new coach for the men's basketball team.

The process began after five-year head coach Frankie Allen was relieved of his services following the team's early departure from the MEAC tournament with an 80-56 loss to Florida A&M.

Allen posted a 52-83 record in his career as head coach of the Bison, and witnessed his greatest seasons during the first years of his tenure. However, such accomplishments were not repeated in the following years, leading to the current search for a replacement to fill the position.

"We are looking for someone who can come in and fit within the framework of Howard University," said Howard University Athletic Director Sondra Norell-Thomas. "(Someone) that can understand that we are an educational facility and are far more interested in recruiting and graduating our players, but will also be able to move our program in the right direction," she said.

Although there is no set date for the selection process to wrap-up, Norell-Thomas said they have received many applications and are still searching at this time.

The athletic department declined to release the names of the individuals involved in the selection process, but said that President H. Patrick Swygert will have the final say in the decision.



Former men's basketball head coach, Frankie Allen, was relieved of his duties of coaching after posting a 5-23 overall record this season. The search committee headed by Howard University Athletic Director, Sondra Norell-Thomas, is still in the process of finding a new coach in time for next season.



Ronald Bartell Jr. (#32) was selected in the second round by the St. Louis Rams in this year's NFL Draft.

Rams Select Bartell Jr. in Second Round of NFL Draft

BY IRAM ABDULLAH
Hilltop Staff Writer

For many young men, hearing your name called in the NFL draft is merely a fantasy, but for Ronald Bartell Jr., it was the sweetest sound.

"I already knew I was going into the draft, but a lot of pressure was lifted off my shoulders afterwards," said the 6'3" 211 lb. cornerback.

Bartell who was drafted in the second round and the 50th pick overall, by the St. Louis Rams, has high expectations for his new life as a Ram.

"Hopefully, I can help them get to the Super Bowl, or at least help them win some more games," he said.

Bartell is not the only per-

son who expects great things. Howard defensive coordinator, Keith Gilmore said, "As high of a draft pick as he was, I expect him to contribute a lot. He'll probably be a nickel back and eventually get into the starting rotation."

Bartell began his football career as a sophomore at Renaissance High School in Detroit, Mich.

At Central Michigan University, Bartell was a two-year starter at the safety position. Before the 2003 season, Bartell transferred to Howard, where he found himself a home on the Howard turf.

Majoring in administration of justice, playing the corner position for HU, and juggling the pressures of the NFL draft,

Bartell is now pleased that it is all over.

"The whole process was starting to get on my nerves," he said jokingly. "I just took a big sigh of relief once it ended."

Many of Bartell's former Bison teammates were pleased to hear of his being picked and look forward to seeing how well he does in St. Louis.

"I was truly happy for him because he is a friend, teammate, and a person from Howard," said junior Sam Buck. "I think he has all the intangibles to do well in the NFL."

Bartell leaves D.C. next week, but he looks forward to living in St. Louis and showing everyone that players from small schools can play in the big leagues.

Eagles Begin Camp with Distractions

BY COURTNEY EILAND
Sports Editor

The Philadelphia Eagles' mini-camp practice has been swarmed with contract disputes and tension between quarterback Donovan McNabb and wide receiver Terrell Owens.

The tension evolved when Owens took a verbal shot at McNabb in late-April, claiming that he had fatigue late in the fourth quarter of their 24-21 Super Bowl loss against the New England Patriots.

"I played every snap they allowed me to play," Owens told ESPN.com. "I wasn't even running until, like, two weeks before the game. But I made sure I was in the best shape possible. I wasn't the guy who got tired in the Super Bowl."

McNabb defended himself, saying, "If you say I was winded, if you say the [offensive] line was winded, if you say the defense was winded, that's fine. But to be tired and dropping to a knee, that didn't happen."

Owens, who sat out the first day of mini-camp due to discontent with his contract, could possibly be in violation of his contract for not reporting to the mandatory practice session.

Owens has constantly made remarks about wanting to renegotiate the seven-year contract that he signed last March, but the Eagles are refusing to amend the \$49 million contract.

According to head coach Andy Reid, the Eagles can go on next season with or without Owens in the lineup. "If he's here, he's here. If he's not, he's not," Reid said to ESPN.com.

"We have an understanding here that if you're not here, we move on without you. We have been very successful doing that, so we don't waste a lot of time worrying about those things," he concluded.

Contract disputes have also kept Pro Bowl running back Brian Westbrook and defensive tackle Corey Simon out of mini-camp, and wideout Freddie Mitchell was not welcome at camp due to his constant complaints of his role on the offensive end.

In regards to the soap opera-like drama between Owens and McNabb,



Tension has formed between Eagles stars Donovan McNabb and Terrell Owens after Owens claimed that McNabb had fatigue late in the fourth quarter of their 24-21 Super Bowl loss against the New England Patriots. Owens has also made numerous complaints about his unhappiness with his current contract.

McNabb appears take the higher road. "I don't play games in the media. I'm not going to sit here and try to have a war of words. I'm a man at what I do," McNabb said to ESPN.com.

"If there's a problem with anyone,

and they feel the need to lash out, they know how to get in touch with me and we can handle it like men," he added.

The Eagles concluded their mini-camp practice last Sunday and will begin training camp in late July.

Lance Armstrong's Final Ride

BY ROBERTA DOOMS
Contributing Writer

World champion cyclist and six-time Tour de France winner, Lance Armstrong will retire at the age of 33 after he takes his final ride on the Tour de France this summer.

On April 18 in Augusta, Ga., Armstrong took the podium before his ride in the on Tour de Georgia to reveal that this summer would be his last as a cyclist.

"Ultimately, athletes have to retire...my time has come," said Armstrong at his retirement press conference.

After Armstrong takes off his yellow jersey for the final time, win or lose, he will be remembered more for the trail he had to ride in life than the ones in France.

Born and raised in Texas to a teenage and poverty stricken mother, Armstrong began competing in long distance running at the age of 10 and triathlons by the age 14. Despite his early interest in these sports, cycling would become his love.

Armstrong hit stardom in cycling in 1991. Over the next five years he would win World Championships and Tour du Pont and compete in the Tour de France.

However, in 1996, Armstrong began to drop out of races because of pains in his chest and difficulties breathing.

On October 2, 1996 Lance Armstrong was diagnosed with testicular cancer. His cancer was in an advanced stage. The cancer began to spread from his testicles to his brain. Armstrong had tumors on his lung and lesions on his brain by the time the cancer was detected. His doctors gave him a forty to fifty percent chance of living.

After two surgeries, one removing his testicle and the other removing the lesions from his brain, and experimental chemotherapy, Armstrong began his fight to get back on his bike. After three months of

chemotherapy, his cancer was in remission and he was back on his bike training.

In 1998, he returned to racing but without a team and at one point without hope as he quit in the middle of one race.

After slowly regaining his skills and health back Armstrong became strong competition again after finishing high in the World Championships and the Tour of Spain. In 1999, he set his eyes on the Tour de France once again.

The 23-day, 2,000 mile Tour de France would take a toll on the healthiest of athletes with its difficult course. Armstrong coming off a severe case of cancer wanted to do more than just compete in the race. He wanted to win. As a result, he won the Tour and the next five following.

When Armstrong finishes his race at the end of July to begin his retirement to spend time with his children, there would be a negativity surrounding him.

Professional athletes are living in a time of steroids and BALCO scandals. Armstrong has been accused of "doping" by a few sources including a former personal assistant -who is also suing for wrongful termination- said while cleaning out Armstrong's apartment in Spain he found bottles with the drug Androstenin.

Androstenin is a banned steroid in cycling competition. Armstrong has filed lawsuits against those who have made accusations of steroid use.

Thanks to a new fashion statement and a slogan, Armstrong and his foundation have raised over 40 million dollars for cancer research, education and advocacy. Armstrong's "livestrong" bracelets have become a sign of support and a symbol of courage for many fighting cancer.

Armstrong's final Tour de France will take place from July 2 to July 24 as he prepares to take his final ride.

HU Outdoor Track & Field Team Prepares for NCAA Regionals

BY MIKE HOLMES
Hilltop Staff Writer

Despite the fact that summer break is a little over a week away, Coach Michael Merritt and the Howard men and women's track teams could not wait to go to Disney World.

Last weekend the teams headed to the Disney Wide World of Sports Complex in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. to compete in the 2005 MEAC Outdoor Championships.

"I think it went very well for both teams," said Merritt. The women's team finished third out the 11 teams present.

The Morgan State women's team won the MEAC Championship and the Hampton University women's team took second place.

The Howard University women's team did manage to beat the remaining eight teams by at least 20 points. Lauren McNairy won the women's 400m with a time of 54.05. McNairy's time qualified her for the NCAA Regional at the end of

the month as well the USA Junior National Track and Field Championships.

Alyssa Johnson and Ashley West-Nesbitt took second and third respectively in the women's 100m hurdles. LaClaire Carter took third in the women's 100m dash. Tasha Harris won second in the women's 1500m and Latavia Lewis took third in the women's 400m hurdles. The women's 4x400 finished third as well.

On the men's side FAMU (Florida A&M University) won the MEAC Championships. The Howard men's team finished eighth overall beating out Delaware State, South Carolina State and Coppin State.

Khary Kenyatta took second in the men's 800m and David Wynn took third in the men's 1500m. The men's 4x100 finished fourth. "They were a bit of a surprise," Merritt added.

After McNairy's first place victory over the weekend, the Howard team now has three qualifiers for the NCAA Regional. In addition to McNairy, Jacoby DuBose and Nicholas Wright will all be heading to New

York to compete in the NCAA Regional.

Coach Merritt hopes to increase that number this weekend at a last chance meet at George Mason University. The Mason team recently returned from competing at the famed Penn Relays. "We have a few more athletes that are right on the bubble to qualify," Merritt explained.

Merritt has been a busy man over the past couple of weeks. Besides fine tuning his teams for the MEAC Championships and the NCAA Regional he has been out recruiting for next year.

Merritt has three young women that have already committed to the team: Allison Richardson from Louisiana, Natalie Map from New Jersey and Lillian Daniels from New York.

Merritt is still working on several prospects for the men's team next year. He was unable to comment further at the time due to collegiate restrictions.

The George Mason invitational is this Saturday in Fairfax, Va. Events are set to start at 10:30 am.

Edward Hill Jr. to Receive the 2005 Bob Kenworthy Award this Summer

BY COURTNEY EILAND
Sports Editor

This year, Howard University's sports information director, Edward Hill Jr., will be presented with the 2005 Bob Kenworthy Award.

This award is presented annually by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) to the sports information director who donates time and resources for community service and has had accomplishments outside of the sports information office.

Hill has been working in the Howard sports information office for 23 years and his assistant, Romanda Noble, finds that this award is long overdue.

"He's very deserving of this award and it is long overdue. I'm actually the one who nominated him," said Noble.

Noble started working with Hill as a student at the University of the District of

Columbia which carried her on to becoming his assistant at the sports information office at Howard. "Working with [Hill] has been extremely pleasant," said Noble.

Some of his other sports information student interns have gone on to pursue careers in the sports industry such as Teri Washington, Director of Media Relations/Denver Nuggets, Kevin Paige, Asst Director of Media Relations/Coppin State University, Jim Trotter, beat reporter for the San Diego Chargers, and Bruce Speight, Asst. Director of Media Relations/Carolina Panthers.

Outside of the office, Hill's major focus is the youth of D.C. Hill has worked on numerous projects within the community including becoming the co-founder of the D.C. Warriors youth basketball league.

This 11-and-under team has qualified for both the National AAU Tournament and the Youth Basketball of America National Tournament scheduled to take place this July.

He also works closely with the D.C. Public Schools. "His major focus is the youth of D.C.," said Noble. "Everything he does is geared toward the youth."

Students have also benefited from Hill's mentoring in his Sports and the Media class that he teaches. Some include Elena Bergeron, who now writes for ESPN The Magazine, Michael T. Lyle, Jr., who works for ESPN Radio, Aisha Chaney and Kimoth Brown, who are both ESPN producers, and Tracie Jackson, who is the assistant athletic director at Cincinnati State.

Hill will receive the award at the CoSIDA annual convention in Philadelphia, Pa. on July 4th.

In an e-mail Hill said, "I am extremely honored on behalf of the people who I serve both in the Washington, D.C. community and the students here at Howard and am especially proud to represent Howard University."



World champion cyclist and six-time Tour de France winner, Lance Armstrong will retire at the age of 33 after he takes his final ride on the Tour de France this summer.

The 2004-05 sports staff would like to thank Lawrence Johnson and All Pro Photography, the athletic department, coaches, and staff for their support. We would also like to give a special thanks to both Romanda Noble and Ed Hill Jr. for their help in the sports information office.

Upgrades for Graduation

Windows Upgrade for More Security in the Works

BY KENDRA TURNER
Hilltop Staff Writer

When Microsoft users insisted on a more powerful, reliable and secure experience while using their computers, program developers listened and now Microsoft is in the process of testing a powerful new version of Windows, codenamed Longhorn.

The new Windows software will be faster, safer and easier to use. This means that users will be able to organize their files in a more logical manner, access files on the computer with less of a hassle, and protect their files from hackers.

One of the major concerns of Longhorn developers is security. According to Windows.com, the main security components of Longhorn will include stronger isolation and resistance features. Windows.com also said, "Security on Longhorn is not just a bolted on afterthought. Underlying the tools is a foundation of security engineering excellence."

Longhorn will also include a Secure Startup mode. Internet technology website, theregister.co.uk, reported that "Secure Startup will combine full-volume encryption, integrity checks

and the hardware-based Trusted Platform Module (TPM) to detect malicious changes to the computer and protect the user's data if the laptop is stolen."

The concept to upgrade Windows was initially introduced in its entirety at a Professional Developers Conference in 2003. Currently Longhorn is in beta stage, the last stage of product testing before commercial release.

During the beta stage, the product is sent to test sites outside the company to be exposed to the public through free trials and downloads over the Internet. Longhorn has been in this stage since 2003 and was initially slated for a release in 2004. The release date has now been pushed back to Dec. 2006.

With the continued stalling of the release date, Clint Walker, Interim Director of User Support Services at the I-Lab, is skeptical of the new program. "I don't have any confidence that it will be released in 2006," said Walker. He added, "We have the program if [students] want it, but they have to be careful because it could crash their machines."

Since the production and testing process, many of the initial features that Longhorn was supposed to offer have been cut

out and some have been offered separately.

This is another aspect of Longhorn that leaves computer experts skeptical. They believe that because many of the original features have been clipped in an effort to speed up its release, the end product will be a watered down version that lacks the improvement and development creators initially had in mind.

Although the path for Longhorn is hazy, its introduction raises many concerns about security among students and their computers. Many students' computers have become susceptible to viruses since entering the Howard network.

Even though sophomore I'sys Caffey has an old computer, she takes strides to protect her computer. "I try not to download e-mail files I receive because I don't want anymore viruses," the radio, tv, film major said. "When I get my new computer, I plan to have a lot of virus protection," Caffey said.

Howard students can receive free software and downloads for virus protection, including Norton Anti-Virus and more upon request at the I-lab.

Students Receptive to Upcoming AIM Upgrade

BY STACY A. ANDERSON
Business & Technology Editor

Howard students are always on the go, so it is no surprise that many use the latest technology to communicate with friends around campus and family back at home. As early as the end of the year, students who log on to America Online Instant Messenger (AIM) can enjoy the application's latest technology.

America Online (AOL) representative Susan Timcheck said the new AIM version, codenamed Triton, will feature "Quicknotes" that allow users to retrieve buddy information, launch chat sessions, and send messages to cell phone users at a quicker rate than before.

Triton will allow users to launch video IM sessions, share files or images, and invite buddies to play games with one click. Users will have more customizing options, which will include 3-D Super Buddy icons.

Triton also includes a new format for Instant Message Catcher that helps users utilize the screen and manage sessions with unlimited buddies more effectively. Users will gain another entry into Instant Messenger through their address book.

AOL upgraded AIM to "unclutter" and simplify the instant messaging experience, said Timcheck. The new version will accommodate new advances in voice, video, and mobile technologies.

Most students are excited about the advanced AOL Talk feature, which lets numerous users chat by streaming their voices through the system and allows more buddies to join the ongoing conversation.

"It's a better way to communicate, especially with long distance," said sophomore psychology major Erika Jackson-Stokes, who uses AIM daily. "I would use the voice feature. That's pretty cool."

Junior chemistry major Miguel Graves is very knowledgeable about software and



Many students who spend countless hours a day on AIM will enjoy the new upgrade.

computers since his father once owned a computer company. "All these features save you a few clicks. It's not really a huge upgrade," said Graves. However, he said these slight advances are still beneficial. "Either way, these [features] are just more ways to make me procrastinate when I need to be doing my homework."

Freshman business management major Raasikh Muhammad agreed with Graves. "I use AIM a lot. I like the new voice feature idea. These advances are definitely going to keep me from my homework," Muhammad said.

Sophomore Keila White doesn't use AIM that often, but still likes the upgrade. "To be able to communicate instantly is more efficient and safer. You can hear the person and not just go by a screen name," said the music management major.

With new advances that make communication faster

and more effective, AIM will continue to be a major form of communication for college students. "We do see people in young demographics escalating from text to AOL Talk and Video IM. We consider AIM to be an integrated communications service as many use it as a social desktop," said Timcheck.

AIM originated in 1996. There are 30 million users, of which 21 million users are considered active. On average, most users are on AIM through their desktop or cell phones five to six hours a day. Users have an average of 75 or more buddies. As of May 2, 2005, the Buddy List can hold up to 250 buddies.

Students can currently download Triton at <http://beta.aol.com>. However, Timcheck insists that students keep the current AIM version 5.9 on their computers while Triton beta testing continues.

Phone Thumb a Pain for Some

BY COURTNEY MAYE
Contributing Writer

Chris Brown, a sophomore physician assistant major, sat in the lobby of Slowe Hall chatting with friends. It appeared that he had a nervous tendency to rub his hands together. But if one looked closely, he or she would see that he was massaging his thumbs.

Brown is an avid video game player, he admitted. But his thumb problems stem from more than "Nintendonitis." "I send text messages every 10 minutes...it's free," said Brown.

More students are suffering from "overuse syndrome" or the constant wear and tear on precious thumbs that leads to tendonitis. And for those who have caught on to the newest handheld craze, the BlackBerry, they may be in store for the same sore thumbs. This familiar condition has been appropriately termed "BlackBerry Thumb." Symptoms include hand tension, hand cramps, and tired thumbs.

Surprisingly, many students cannot put a finger on how much the texting craze can affect their hands in the long run.

Darius Lyles, a sophomore film major, who sends a considerable amount of text messages daily, said that it won't be until he gets older that his fingers will start aching. Only then will he seriously think about the long-term effects of thumb-tapping on his phone all day.

"All typing and text messaging can give you thumb or hand

problems but it's not something you think about as a young person," said Lyles.

Ralph Kindred II, a junior public relations major, doesn't have a BlackBerry but has a similar device called a Sidekick, which has the mini-keyboard shape of the BlackBerry. The Sidekick also has the same luxuries as the BlackBerry including access to the



internet, email, and text messaging. Kindred said he is constantly on the internet.

"I'm not aware of the long term effects, but I do notice that after consistently typing and texting, my thumbs hurt," said Kindred.

Sophomore text fanatic Kristen Forest, who sends an

average of 50 messages a day, doesn't see the harm in making her thumbs dance on the keys of her phone so often.

"Is it gonna tear its ACL?" joked Forest.

No, your hand won't tear its ACL, but serious conditions like chronic tendonitis and trigger thumb may be in the future for those who won't slow down their typing.

Elaine Johnson, a physical therapist at the Physical Therapy and Sports Assessment Center, explained that the process of using one's thumb to text affects the pulley mechanism in the thumb. After a while, the tendons in the finger do not glide as smoothly. This condition is known as trigger thumb.

Johnson, who practices in Silver Spring, MD, said that she has not stumbled upon anyone with "BlackBerry thumb." But she admitted that this condition is a hot topic that she and her colleagues often talk about -- and that student should be aware of.

"The first tip in preventing 'BlackBerry Thumb' is to stop texting," said Johnson.

Unfortunately, the reality is that the era of the text message and thumb typing is far from over. Students have said that they will continue to text despite potential finger problems. Johnson suggests that students stretch sore thumbs, ice them down, and give themselves a hand massage.

Study Reveals Most Verizon Customers Satisfied

BY KENDRA TURNER
Hilltop Staff Writer

Nextel, Sprint, Verizon, and T-Mobile are just a few of the many wireless providers that offer coverage to cell phone users. Although many of these companies offer perks to their subscribers such as free long distance, roadside assistance, or mobile-to-mobile features, these are not the only factors to consider when shopping for a wireless carrier.

One important but often overlooked factor is which carriers D.C. consumers prefer.

According to an article in the electronic savvy magazine, *PC World*, independent research company Consumer Reports recently surveyed 39,000 of its readers in 17 metro areas to rate their cell phone service. Overall, Verizon Wireless was number one in customer satisfaction. T-Mobile came in second, and AT&T Wireless, now part of Cingular Wireless, was nearly always at the bottom. Sprint,

Cingular, Nextel, and regional carriers like Alltel landed somewhere in between the top- and bottom-ranked carriers, depending on the metro area.

In a 2004 report, J.D. Power and Associates also ranked Verizon Wireless as the top carrier for call quality performance in the Mid-Atlantic region with an index of 105.

T-Mobile and Nextel were not that far behind with indexes of 103 and 100. AT&T, Sprint and Cingular were ranked in the third level with call quality indexes of 100, 97 and 93.

Verizon's high rankings reveal the quality of its service. Spokesman John Johnson affirms Verizon's "extensive network and reliability." Johnson also says that based on tests conducted by Verizon and other third party research that, "Verizon is the most reliable service in the D.C. area." Verizon is the only carrier that has built towers underground for better customer service and emergency communication for the Metro authorities as well.

Despite the high rankings of Verizon, wireless providers like Cingular should not be counted out of the race as they become increasingly competitive. Cingular Wireless spokeswoman Alexa Kaufman stresses that not only is Cingular "the largest wireless carrier in the U.S.," because of its recent merger with AT&T, but Cingular is also in the process of integrating a higher quality of service.

Doubling their cell sites and having the largest voice and data network allows its subscribers to use their phones in more places. T-Mobile, Sprint and Nextel are undergoing the same restorative processes.

Howard students have done research of their own and made use of the different carriers available. Jessica Cross, a freshmen psychology major and a Verizon customer said, "I always have a signal unless I am in a basement, but I can talk on the Metro. Overall I am completely satisfied with Verizon."

click it to us.

The Hilltop wants to read what you have to say. Submit a 500 word perspective to www.thehilltoponline.com.

Howard Students Deal with Summer Rising Gas Prices

BY KAREN BRUNDIDGE
Contributing Writer

With the endless expenses of school, several students are adding the extra expense of the District's high gas prices to their budget.

Many people believe when resources become highly priced, consumers will stop buying the product, or at least use less of it.

But that is not the case on Howard's campus. Despite the rising gas prices that keep climbing, some students still prefer driving most of the time, than using public transportation.

"I don't drive less, because the fact in the matter is that you have to get to where you have to go. So I just bear with it," said Courtney Hudson, a sophomore sports medicine major.

Ryan Carroll, a sophomore majoring in accounting, agreed

with Hudson. He drives just as much as he did before gas prices increased, but he said that he is fortunate to have the resources to deal with the problem.

"I would drive less, but my job compensates for the prices. Hopefully the price will go down this summer, but who knows, Bush was re-elected," said Carroll.

Even students that may not drive often or those who do not have cars at Howard still understand what consumers are going through.

"I don't pay for gas, but if I did, I probably wouldn't drive," said sophomore legal communication major Diana Banks.

Many people at Howard have different opinions and point the blame in many directions for the high price of gas.

A common sentiment was that the United States officials should be more responsible in their decision-making.

Jeri Hilt, a senior political science major feels that the U.S.'s irresponsible use of petroleum and significant lack of regulations are part of the problem.

"The U.S. is looking for countries that it can secure oil from. Rather than monitor the use, they'd rather go on using inordinate amounts," Hilt said.

Joseph Augustine, a professor who teaches economics, makes light of the supply and demand theory.

He suggested with the rising demand, decreasing supplies, and refinement capacities, there are bound to be problems with the oil prices for the U.S. He also said that the Iraqi war is a factor of the rising gas prices.

"Iraq's oil production has not been what it was before the war. U.S. demands for oil are always high. When you add those factors, you see increases," Augustine said.

Lorenzo Morris, the Chairman of the Political Science Department, said that the U.S. should improve relations with Venezuela and other countries.

Morris said some reasons for high gas prices in the U.S. are because of high gas prices also in Middle Eastern countries and our country's poor international relations. He simply concluded, we should use less.

"Right now we're using more per person than other countries," Morris said.

Those who continue to drive through the high cost of gas will just have to steer through it some changes are made, but some students have solutions to lessen the burden.

"Avoid rush-hour traffic, carpool, drive less, and take the shuttle when possible. That's really all we can do until prices go down," Carroll said.



Armond Brown-Staff Photographer

While gas prices are ever increasing with no hope of remission, students say that there is no hope for them as car transportation is necessary for survival.

Students May Be More Vulnerable to ID Theft

BY BRIDGETTE GINYARD
Contributing Writer

College students are showing concern over how much personal information they share with local businesses after the Washington Post recently reported that a Blockbuster employee in Dupont Circle was indicted for stealing customers' identities and using them to purchase over \$100,000 in merchandise.

Students can be targeted by identity thieves seeking bank and credit card account numbers, Social Security numbers, names, and personal addresses. According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), everyday transactions among retail stores usually reveal bits of your personal information to small and large businesses.

"Students are more vulnerable to identification theft because they are not careful with their Social Security numbers and credit cards," said Mary Ann Diaz, a FTC Representative. Students are advised to carry only one check card or credit card with them at all times and monitoring activity in their accounts.

Tiffany Newell recently went on a trip to New York and used her check card to pay for a small meal. "When I looked at my statement, the employee had charged me twice the actual amount of the meal," said the sophomore finance major. Now, Newell

avoids using her check card at small businesses, and uses cash for her transactions. Students may experience an incentive for using more hard cash, because it has been proven that individuals spend less when using cash instead of credit.

Dana Downs, a sophomore International Business major uses her check card to make purchases at stores surrounding Howard University. Downs is not only concerned with her identity safety among retail stores, but within the Howard University Administration. "Many employees have access to our Social Security numbers and credit card account numbers. How safe are we?" she said.

"Identity theft is a common occurrence, but it can be prevented by simple actions," said Diaz. Students should leave their Social Security number and other private information at home in a safe place, and avoid giving account information over cellular phones.

"Too often students rely on internet purchases that are not secured, and they jeopardize their security," said Diaz. If students are suspicious about foreign activity on their credit, they can report to a credit bureau, and request a free Credit Report from any of the major credit bureaus such as Experian, Equifax, or Transunion.

Credit Card companies often target college students

who are lured by free gifts and sign documents, like credit card agreements without reading them. Julie Thiry, a Certified Credit Counselor for the National Foundation for Credit Counseling, advises students to avoid scams like these that plaster students with high interest rates.

"Understanding how credit works will prevent this from occurring," said Thiry, who was a victim of a credit card scam. Years after she unknowingly signed a credit card contract, she found that she had three additional cards in her name. Credit card applications can also leave you vulnerable to theft. "It may just be a piece of paper, but you must shred your personal documents, because garbage divers can access your personal information," said Thiry.

When an individual has experienced credit card theft, the Federal Trade Commission publication *ID Theft: What's It All About*, recommends that students file a fraud alert with a credit bureau. A 90 day notice is then placed on your account, alerting the bureau of any suspicious activity.

Your driver's license can also put you at risk for ID theft. Many states include your Social Security number in addition to other personal information. Students can contact their state to find out how to remove their private information from their license.



Mariene Hawthorne-Ass. Photo Editor

Everyday retail purchases that students make to gas stations, Best Buy or the grocery store puts them at a greater risk for identity theft, as it reveals personal information.

iPod Theft on the Rise in D.C.

BY LAUREN SMITH
Contributing Writer

The newest must-have in music, the Apple i-Pod can be seen everywhere on campus. The convenient digital music player for Mac and PC holds up to 5,000 songs, which equates to 12 hours of music play.

At prices ranging from \$200 to \$300, this convenient new "necessity" is a favorite especially among college students who want their music when they are on the run.

Unfortunately, there are many others, both Howard students and locals, who desire the same convenience in music selection.

"I've wanted one for so long and when I saw them in Howard's bookstore I had to have it," said Brittany Anderson, a sophomore Sociology major. "I am a music junkie, so I virtually listen to music all day," she said.

From January to March alone, there were at least fifty i-pods reported stolen in the metropolitan D.C. area, according to the *Washington Post*.

"They are definitely one of the most popular items to be stolen

these days," said campus security Officer Bryan Johnson. "I would suggest students put them in their pockets or secure them when they aren't using them and try not to put it down unattended because they can get taken very quickly."

As students are quite familiar with popular trends, it seems that owning an i-Pod dictates social status.

"With CD players being out of style, the i-Pod is not only convenient but you can show it off," says junior tv production major Charles Bridges. "It's just like the new Jordan's when everyone wants flaunt the newest style," he adds.

Some students think it's ridiculous to pay \$200 for an MP3 player that can quickly be stolen.

"If you have the money to pay for it, that's fine, but I personally don't see the point," said sophomore communications major Ashley Jones.

"There are other MP3 players out now that will hold a sufficient amount of songs and they are more compact, and I won't be as devastated if I accidentally lose it or have it stolen as I would with the

i-Pod," she said.

Other students argue that the touch-sensitive Apple click wheel that allows users to scroll through thousands of songs without lifting a thumb is a necessity that they must have.

Another advantage, is that the i-Pod gives up to 12 straight hours of play on one battery charge gives them the unique ability to play all day. The i-Pod even has the capability through software called i-tunes to transfer music from a CD to its internal hard drive.

Some would claim that you cannot get this from any other digital music player.

If you are a patron of Apple and plan to invest in an i-pod campus police always suggest that you pay close attention to where they are stored and make sure they are always secure when not in use.



Emmanuel Latay-Staff Photographer

Some students think that the reason for the high theft of ipods can be correlated to the social status that owning an ipod brings to the person.



Maya Gilliam-Senior Photo Editor

Hold Onto the Memories

Seniors, we know your emotions are swirling as family and friends are flying in from all over the country to celebrate your achievement. Everyone has watched you grow up, mature and leap into adulthood during the past four years at Howard University. The feeling is bittersweet; remembering the good laughs and hard cries. You will now move to the next phase of your life which will bring new obstacles, challenges and experiences. Here at the Hilltop, we want you to remember a few things once you are out in the "real world."

The first point we want to stress is keeping in touch. The classmates you have grown to love and hate will someday be running the world. Future presidents, CEOs, lawyers, doctors husbands and wives will be marching to the yard with you. Though they may not have seemed to be important during your four years, you might feel important just to have known them in the future. Besides, everyone knows there is no place you can go without running into someone from Howard. Take advantage of the friendships you've made and people you've shared memories with. You've made long-lasting relationships, so make them last forever.

It is also essential to take everything with you. You didn't pay thousands of dollars and sit through hours of class for nothing. The knowledge you have learned at Howard about your African roots and the mark of people of color will never be spoon-fed to you in such a way. Where else will you have

Our View:

Seniors, the time is now to cherish and remember your college experiences.

an African-American studies requirement be mandatory for graduation? Remember your favorite professors and classes, and thank them for teaching you something. When you get your first job the seemingly pointless classes you've trudged through will now have a purpose. Represent Howard to the fullest.

It's easy to reflect and complain about administration issues, the dorm room you hated or the lack of facilities on campus. We could all gripe about what could have been or should have been until we are blue in the face. No school is perfect but we are making progress. Unless you are lucky, you will likely

be pinching pennies and repaying student loans for a while, but once you start to get cute and make six figures remember the little people. Give back to Howard so you can proudly encourage your grandchildren to be Bison as well. Giving back can be in the form of simply coming back, volunteering, giving advice to a student or being a mentor. Someone helped you during your four years, so remember that and be someone else's help one day.

Lastly, we want you to indulge. Look around at the beautiful, talented and intelligent brothers and sisters around you. Sit on the yard or in the punchout unnecessarily long. Party harder and louder than you every will. Tell classmates things you never had the nerve to, no holds barred. Be as vulnerable and open to Howard University as you have ever been for the first and last time. Most importantly remember to be thankful that you've had this opportunity and that you've finally made it. Your degree is timeless and no one can take that from you. Whether you've had a lot of good times or bad ones on this campus, you've become a stronger individual as a result. Keep Howard close to your heart.

Rosa Parks, Outkast Settle Lawsuit

As soon as we heard Rosa Parks' lawyers were pushing for a suit against Outkast we immediately wondered what all the "fuss" was about.

It was apparent that the 92-year-old woman's lawyers were probably behind the money-hungry suit since she has reportedly been suffering from dementia, according to Reuters. This innovative and somewhat conscious rap duo's well-earned Grammys have been for songs and albums that are hardly offensive.

Whenever the older generation hears hip-hop music they frown, scowl and talk about how upsetting our lyrics are. It becomes frustrating to attempt to bridge the gap between the old heads and the younger generation.

We know that we have

a long way to go so we were pleased to know that the suit was finally settled out of court, according to Reuters.

Rosa Parks will receive an undisclosed amount of money

Our View:

It's nice to see the two generations coming together in agreement for once.

to meet her living and health needs and Outkast and other artists will produce a tribute CD which will be released on the 50th anniversary of her arrest, according to Reuters. There will also be an educational show about her life and legacy that will be shown in U.S. public schools as a part of the settle-

ment.

As a result of the drama and madness that ensued after this suit, we are reminded that the older generation and our heroes are not to be taken lightly.

We also learned that there are still misconceptions about hip-hop and the messages behind some of the music.

Many of us feel that Parks' lawyers were trying to take advantage of her by making her believe Outkast was trying to insult or disrespect her, though they clearly stated they were trying to honor her.

Either way, in the process of community service and the settlement outcomes lives will be changed by Parks as an example and two generations will bond.

THE HILLTOP

RUTH L. TISDALE, Editor-in-Chief

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Should America Give Housewives Job Titles, Pay?

As another Mother's Day passes we have to honor the nurturing women who make every effort to make our lives better. It is incredibly difficult for the working mother to juggle her career, personal life and family life without going crazy.

Talk about overtime! A recent study conducted by Salary.com shows that stay-at-home mothers would earn an average of \$131,471 annually, including overtime, if they received a paycheck. The 5.4 million stay-at-home moms surveyed were asked

to come up with job titles to describe their daily routines, according to the article. Women mentioned titles including day-care center teachers van drivers, cooks, nurses, maintenance workers, housekeepers and van drivers, according to the survey. We all had to wonder, what would happen if women who worked within the household were given a title and the opportunity to put chef or mainte-

nance worker on their resumes.

We had to think about the validity of the titles. The reason people get a job title is because they have met certain requirements or passed certain tests in order to get that job. Van drivers have to be certified

"Mommy cooks good," isn't sufficient enough to get her a job at a restaurant. We understand that women who have been at home with young children often have to ease back into working, but we think most employers understand all of the tasks staying at home include without spelling them out. They shouldn't have to explain or justify their hiatus.

Most mothers who are working long hours would gladly accept the opportunity to stay home with their children, but they are forced to work. When a mother is able to stay home, that means she is financially stable enough to be comfortable off one salary. Mothers who are juggling schedules and trying to maintain a family life deserve pats on the back because their workweeks are endless. Many stay-at-home mothers probably feel underestimated or underappreciated, but that shouldn't matter. Their many job titles encompass the biggest blessing of motherhood.

Our View:

The privilege of staying at home with children is more valuable than any salary.

THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Only Black Daily Collegiate Newspaper

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D.C. Police are Out of Control

KIMBERLY JONES

At least 5 Howard University students, including my husband Opel Jones, were immediately arrested after parking at broken meters on campus last week. Five undercover cops jumped out of cars and from behind bushes to arrest my husband Wednesday at 7:30am.

They told him that he was arrested for destruction of federal property. Opel immediately threw up his hands and told them that he didn't even come close to the meter.

However, they responded that they saw him break it with their own eyes as they were

pulling pieces of paper from the meter.

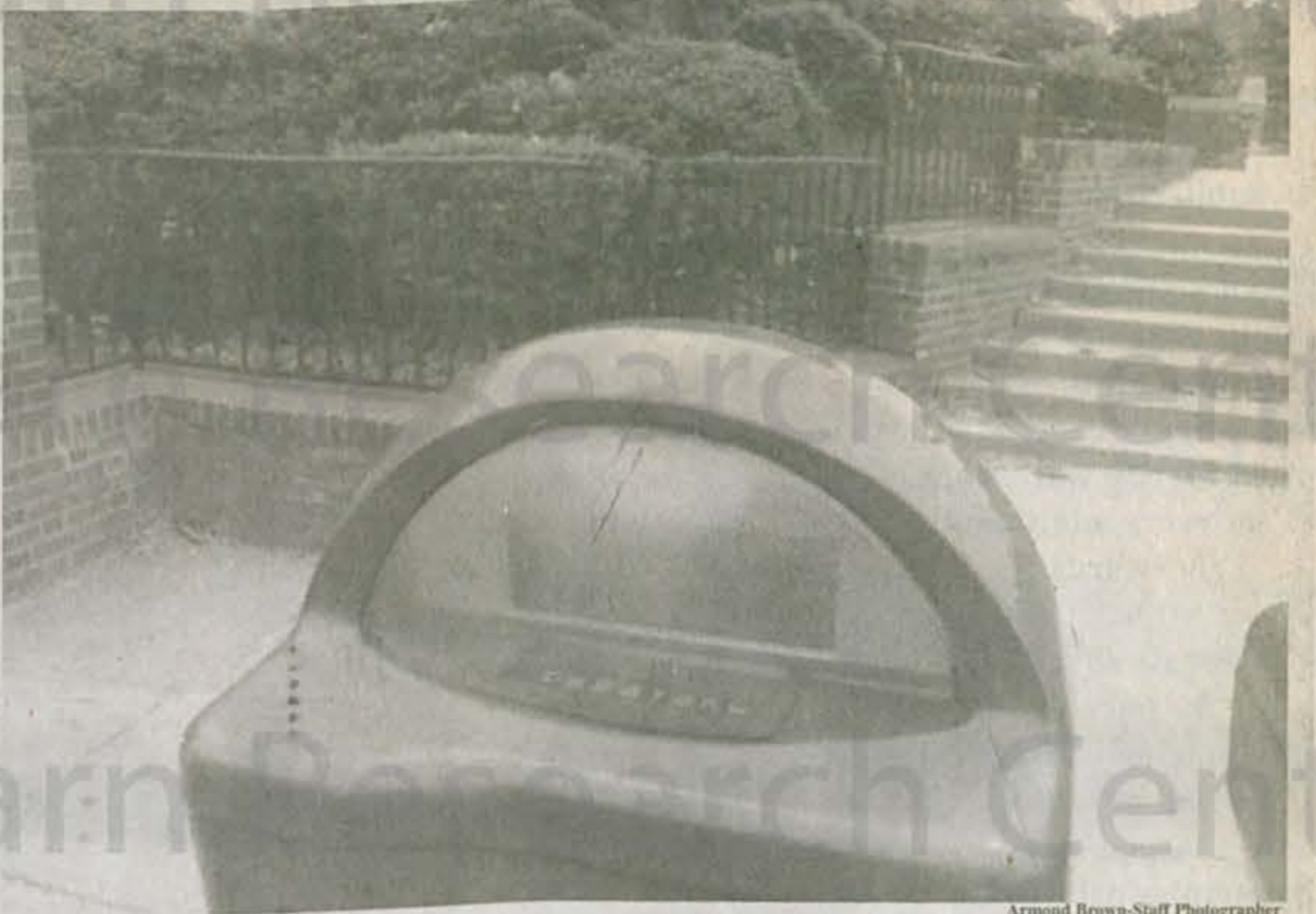
The officers made him spend the night in jail with prisoners charged with murder and illegal drug and gun possession. He had to sleep on the dirty floor with roaches and ants crawling all over and was given a stale bologna and sour mayonnaise sandwich to last for lunch and dinner. When he asked if he could have something to drink the officers told him to drink from the rusted faucet, which spouted brown water. He never received his one phone call and was transported to 3 locations in the middle of the night in shackles with other prisoners.

All of this was over a broken

meter. He wasn't released until 5:30pm the next day and was told that he must find a criminal attorney for trial. If he is convicted he could face at least a year in jail.

This same harsh treatment was given to several other Howard University students last week, men and women of all nationalities (Asian, African, etc).

As far as we know, this action toward parking at broken meters has not taken place at any other university in D.C. Even if he did break the meter, the punishment does not fit the crime. Please let this story be known and please do not park at a broken meter!



Armond Brown-Staff Photographer



As a former Editor-in-Chief of The Hilltop (1972-1973) and a graduate of the Howard University School of Law (1976), I claim a double victory in the recent triumph of the Law School in the National Moot Court Competition and in the Hilltop being voted "Best Campus Newspaper" earlier this

year by the Princeton Review.

Congratulations to the Law School, and to Dean Kurt Schmoke, as well as to the School of Communications, from which I graduated with a degree in print journalism in 1973 (when Tony Brown was the Dean). You make an "old school" brother very proud!

Now that The Hilltop is a daily (5 days per week), I pray that its example may inspire black weekly newspapers around the country to emulate its sterling initiative. If not, I urge graduating Hilltop editors and reporters to seek employment and own-

ership opportunities with the nation's black weekly press, with a view toward enabling, facilitating, and compelling them to do likewise. If not you, who? If not now, when?

The Howard School of Communications and Howard Law School are an awesome combination, and your efforts do much to further appreciate the value of this conjoined gift from God. Peace and Love to All on "The Yahd."

Larry Delano Coleman



As an alum of both Howard and Harvard Law School, I'm really proud of Howard's moot court team taking the title and taking down Harvard. I'm sure that many HU current and former stu-

dents can relate to the experience of meeting a new person and when asked about where you went to school, a common response is "Oh Harvard, wow!" and when corrected to be followed with simply an "Oh"—WE all know what HU represents and delivers: my undergrad days were by far much more rewarding and challenging than my days at Harvard. In fact, my HU experience more than prepared me for Harvard. Most of course would like to believe and portray the opposite, but the truth stands. Way to go HU!

Nevan Elam, HU '89

'PIECES OF YOU' Words of the week:

My Mother:

The maternal instinct of her shores embrace me

The genealogy that bore her is my own

I am sustained by her bosom

Her beauty cradles my soul

The rhythmic flow of her breeze caresses me

The melodic beat of her drum echoes the pulsating ballad of my heart

The majesty of her dye elevates me

The movement of her rivers flow in unity with the life that rushes through my veins

Her light, stolen from rays, born of the sky, reminds me that I am home

And as I hear the chorus of her children's laughter

I know that I have found my Mother...

Her name is Africa

Rochee C. E. Jeffrey

Rice Urges UN Reform: What about the US?

ADRIAN TAYLOR

In a recent address to the American Society for Newspaper Editors, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice made the case for United Nations (U.N.) reform. Secretary Rice echoed the sentiments of Secretary-General Kofi Annan's proposal for UN reform titled "In Larger Freedom" with her own political obligations.

Dr. Rice's address was made against the backdrop of the hearings of John Bolton (UN opponent and Bush nominee for the U.N. ambassadorship) the politically suspect UN oil-for-food scandal and the alleged sexual misconduct of U.N. peacekeepers in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Secretary Rice seized an opportune moment to promote John Bolton and the interests of the Bush Administration. Concerning this issue of reform, the operative word that mustn't be overlooked is that of timing.

Yes, the U.N. must be reformed, and their proposals along with U.S. should be commended. But the timing of Rice's address and the "developing" revelations of U.N. impropriety are conspicuous, considering Annan's fall 2004 claim that the U.S. invasion of Iraq went against the U.N. charter.

With respect to reform, we must ask ourselves, "In whose interests will the U.N. be reformed?" Painfully, we must look in the mirror and ask ourselves if the U.N. is the only body that must reform? What about U.S. reform? We should consider our willingness to invade Iraq without the support of the Security Council, and the revelation of no WMD's. Let's not even explore our questionable involvements in the affairs of Haiti, Venezuela and Cuba, lately.

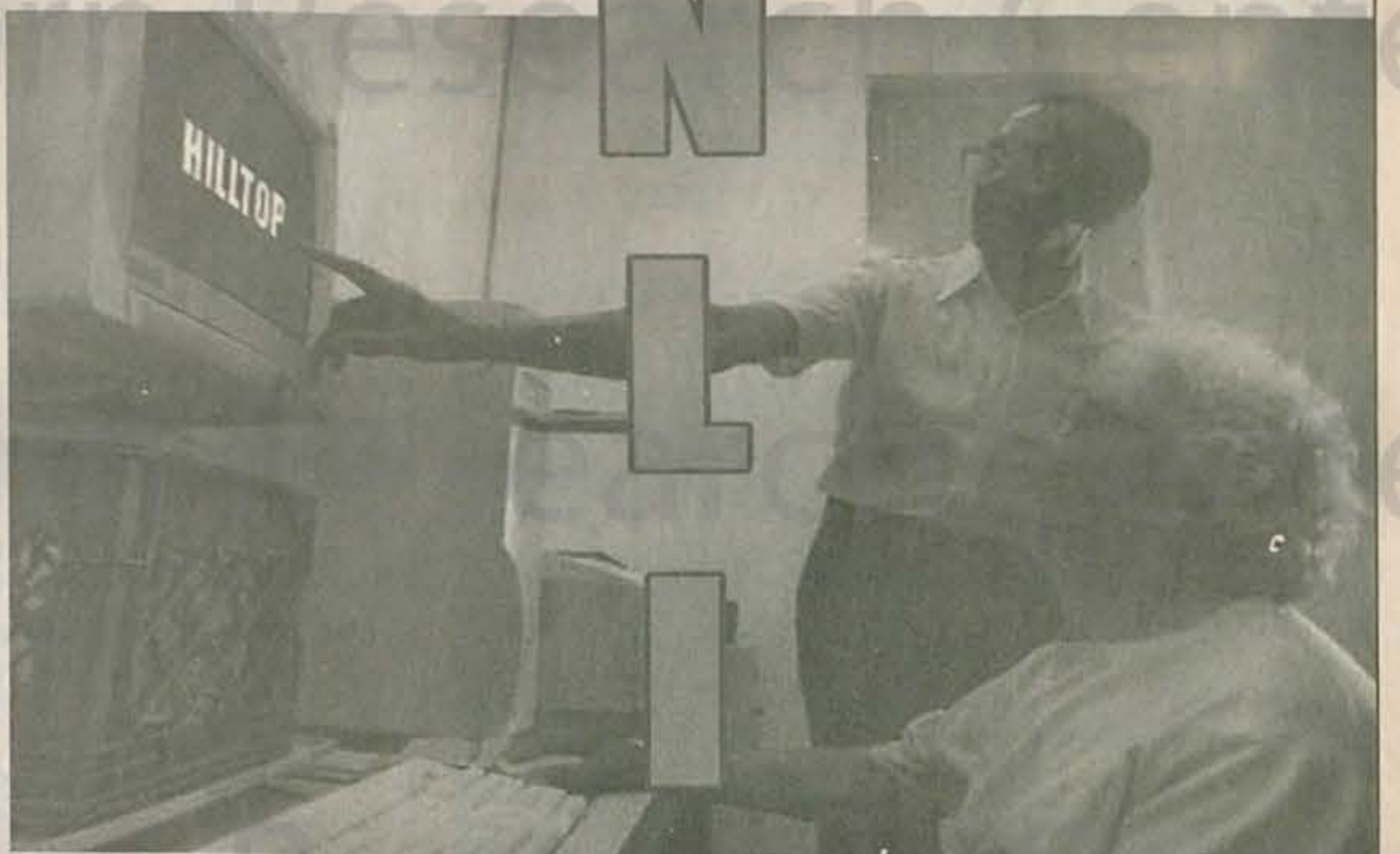
Correspondingly, the U.S. is not subordinate to some arbitrary international test, where our sovereignty is given up to

some world government. But we are necessary U.N. members and we must be consistent. Can the U.S. justifiably expect other nations to submit to international obligations that we won't submit to (except when it suits us)?

As the reigning super-military-power, and waning if not always absent moral-authority, we've got to do better, unless the end of history will become the Cold War of a Nuclear Holocaust.

Must we be saved from ourselves? We have to at least measure up to the standards of our own edicts. The U.N. model and its coming reform are promising and the last check on this current regime, however nominal, in our quest for US hegemony. The paradox of American superpower is that we can't do it alone. Our coalition of the willing wasn't strong enough to stop us from asking the U.N. to help us rebuild in Iraq.

"EVEN MY GRANDMA READS THE HILLTOP..."



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Announcements

To the Council of Brothers,

After four long hard years, we have made it. I feel my brother in arms when I sense the Hilltop. This day I know I'll pick up the torch after I get here. I'll make my Howard experience what it was and even though it'll never be like this again, we'll share with the members the same love, and the same dedication. Congratulations to you, the Hilltop will never be the same again!

Shawn Campbell, Tunisia Christian, Tiffany Ellison, Stephanie Erhuah, Julius Farrington, Stacey Gates, Brooke Fortson, Eric D. Hall, Aura Harewood, Angela Harris, Brandon Henry, Sheriela Kelly, Keith Laing, Candace Lee, Ronald Milline, Muhammad Salaam, Arian Thomas, Tunisia Walker, Ian Ward II, Tia Williams

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A 30TH CLASS REUNION CELEBRATION EVENT

WHEN: SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2005

8 PM - 10 PM >>

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ASHLEY ROSS

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!

FAITH L. WALLS

"THE DIVA"

CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE GRADUATING SENIORS OF THE ESTEEMED LADIES OF P.R.I.V.V!
 YOU WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN.

Congratulations to following members of the Class of 2005:

April Akindale
 Shawn Campbell
 Tunisia Christian
 Tiffany Ellison
 Stephanie Erhuah
 Julius Farrington
 Stacey Gates
 Brooke Fortson
 Eric D. Hall
 Aura Harewood
 Angela Harris
 Brandon Henry
 Sheriela Kelly
 Keith Laing
 Candace Lee
 Ronald Milline
 Muhammad Salaam
 Arian Thomas
 Tunisia Walker
 Ian Ward II
 Tia Williams

We wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavors. You will truly be missed. Thanks for your continued participation in our club and remember to strive for the best because you are the best.

-The Georgia Club

AKA Quander Memorial Scholarships Awarded to HU Students

Three Howard University Students were awarded at total of \$6,100.00 in scholarships for the 2005 - 2006 academic year. Crystal McKnight, a junior, received \$2,500.00, Desiree Drummond, a sophomore received \$1,800.00, and Jennifer Law, a junior, received \$1,800.00. Congratulations to the award recipients!

The Alpha Kappa Alpha Nellie M. Quander Memorial Scholarship is awarded to Howard University students who are junior or senior undergraduates during a respective academic year. The students must have demonstrated academic excellence (3.0 cumulative G.P.A. or better), and a commitment to public and community service. The scholarship is funded through support from the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Alpha Chapter Howard University Alumnae.



The Hilltop

The Student Voice of Howard University Since 1924

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